

27 October 2021

Information Rights & Compliance Team
99 Waverley Road
St Albans
Hertfordshire
AL3 5TL

Tel: 01727 804954
Email: Hpkt.foi@nhs.net

Our Ref: FOI/03801

Thank you for your request concerning Perinatal Treatment For BAME Service Users.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

Under the Freedom of Information Act (2001), we would like to request the following information:

1. Types of services offered for women in the perinatal period;

This information is already in the public domain¹. Please follow this [link](#) to our website.

- 2. Number and job title of qualified mental health professionals within each service who offer treatment focusing on the diverse ethnicities;**
3. Number of perinatal specialists within the Trust;

The below table shows the number of qualified MH professionals working across the Community Perinatal Team.

Job Title	Headcount
Psychologist	5
Social Worker	3
Occupational Therapist	3
Medics	4
Community Perinatal Worker	2
Parent Infant workers	6
Mental Health Nurse	5

4. Lowest age limit for referral to service.

Please follow the link provided above.

¹ Section 21 – Information is accessible through other means

We would also like to gather specific referral data for any individuals that had been referred for perinatal care (over the last five years) within the trust as follows:



5. Number of referrals from the BAME community;

Please see below the number of referrals by financial year. The service has not been open for 5 full years.

NOTE: BAME community includes:

- WHITE & BLACK CARIBBEAN
- WHITE & BLACK AFRICAN
- WHITE & ASIAN
- ANY OTHER MIXED BACKGROUND
- INDIAN
- PAKISTANI
- BANGLADESHI
- ANY OTHER ASIAN BACKGROUND
- CARIBBEAN
- AFRICAN
- ANY OTHER BLACK BACKGROUND
- CHINESE
- ANY OTHER ETHNIC GROUP

Financial Year	Number of Referrals
2015/16	0
2016/17	20
2017/18	170
2018/19	153
2019/20	139
2021/21	177
2021/22 (13/10/2021)	91

6. Age of referrals;

Age Range	BAME referrals to Community Perinatal Team
0-17	*
18-24	106
25-29	156
30-34	246
35-39	185
40-44	49
45-49	*

* We are unable to provide the requested breakdown in the above two age groups due to the small number of services users. We have applied Exemption Section 40(2) because entries of 5 or less are considered sufficiently small enough to be potentially identifiable data. On this basis, this information is exempt from the duty to publish² .

² Section 40(2) - Personal Data has been applied. This is because by releasing this information could identify individual(s) and constitute a breach of the Data Protection Act (2018).

7. Gender of referrals;

Female	786
Male	0

8. Type of treatment and/or talking therapies offered;

The purpose of the Freedom of Information is to provide public access to information held by public authorities. It does this in two ways: public authorities are obliged to publish certain information about their activities and members of the public are entitled to request information from public authorities.

In this instance the information you are requesting is not held in a reportable format.

In order for us to provide this information would involve us manually going through 684 service users records and we do not believe reading through individuals medical records for the purpose of a FOI request would be in line with the GDPR Data Protection Principles or the Caldicott Principles. Therefore we have applied exemption S12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit³.

It is estimated that it would take 10 minutes to scrutinise each record to establish what treatment or talking therapy the patient received i.e. 114 hours @ £25 = £2,850.00.

However under Section 16 – Duty to provide advice and assistance we would like to direct you again to our website (link provided under question 1) where it describes the help a service user can receive.

9. The estimated time spent on a waiting list prior to initial contact;

The average wait time for first appointment is 37 days.

10. How many attended first appointment;

404 service users attended their first appointment after referral was received.

11. How many never attended;

346 service users failed to attend the first appointment.

12. How many completed treatment;

339 service users completed treatment.

13. With those who completed treatment, how many presented with risk pertaining to their gaming behaviours;

This is not extractable information³. Please see explanation provided under question 8. It is estimated that it would take a further 5 minutes to scrutinise each record to establish those who presented a risk pertaining to gaming behaviours i.e. 57 hours @ £25 = £1,425.00.

³ Section 12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit

14. How many dropped out of treatment part way through;

This is not a terminology that we would use. Women may end their treatment/episode of care earlier than we planned for a number of reasons including:

- Moving out of area
- Improvements made whilst under our service leading to an appropriate decision to end care with the team.
- A small number of women do not engage with the service but this again may be due to a number of reasons ranging from their mental health (their needs therefore may be better met by another team, dual diagnosis e.g. substance use issues; social issues rather than mental health predominating, e.g. safeguarding where Adult Social Care and Children's Service are best placed to take on their care.

15. How many were still in treatment.

As of 13/10/2021 we have 65 BAME service users still receiving treatment.

Should you require further clarification or like to discuss the payment of £4,275, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust's complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

Sue Smith

**Sue Smith
Information Rights Officer**

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click [here](#).

