

19 October 2022

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Our Ref: FOI/04403

Thank you for your request concerning Adult ADHD Assessment Pathway.

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

**Please can you provide information on:**

**(1) Please provide details of your Adult ADHD Assessment pathway.**

Please see attached our Shared Care Protocol for the treatment of ADHD in Hertfordshire.

**(2) Please provide information on your current throughput for each stage of the pathway.**

Please see attached spreadsheet.

**CAVEAT:** The stages identified are from contact with our Single Point of Access (SPA) and the date of initial assessment using the ICD10 code of F90.0 - Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder diagnosis.

The Trust considers that entries of 5 or less are sufficiently small to be potentially identifiable personal data. On this basis, this information is exempt from the duty to publish (Section 40 (2) FOI Act 2000).

**(3) Please provide information on the number of people waiting for each stage**

Please see attached spreadsheet and caveat provided under question 2.

**(4) It is our understanding you have an ADHD screening stage. Please can you provide:**

**(a) Details of the screening process. In particular:**

- (i) An outline of the process**
- (ii) What screening tools are routinely used.**

The Trust asks referrers of adults with suspected ADHD to complete the following information in line with NICE guidance on the diagnosis of ADHD:

WEISS Functional rating scale – conducted by a health professional  
Substance Misuse Tool – self completed.  
Supply evidence of demonstrating symptomology prior to age 12 – self submitted.

- (iii) What qualifications the screening staff member must have**
- (iv) Confirmation all staff members doing the screenings had the qualification in (iii). If not then please outline the number of screenings done by people**



**meeting the qualification standard and the number not meeting the qualification standard.**

We do not hold this information<sup>1</sup>. These tools are completed in primary care with the person being referred.

In line with NICE Guidance referrals for ADHD diagnosis will be progressed if the functional rating scale indicates impairment, and there is evidence of symptomology in childhood. Further to this, that substance misuse is not a high risk requiring the more appropriate referral to substance misuse services as an initial step.

**(b) How many people were screened in the last year**

Please see attached spreadsheet and caveat provided under question 2.

**(c) How many people were rejected at the screening stage last year**

**(d) Please provide the information for (b) and (c) split by gender**

**(e) Please provide the information for (b) and (c) split by ethnicity**

**(f) Please describe your process for those that are rejected.**

**(g) [Only include if this question does not take the question over the cost limit] For the past year how many individuals who were rejected have now got an ADHD diagnosis on their record.**

**(h) For the past year how many individuals who were rejected have also got a record of:**

**(i) Suicidal thoughts, suicide attempts, suicide completion on their medical record.**

**(ii) Self harm on their medical record.**

We are unable to provide this level of data on rejected screening as this is not held in a reportable format. For us to provide this level of data would involve manually scrutinising every service users record. This would invoke S12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

**(5) For those that go on to be put forward for an Adult ADHD Assessment. In the past year:**

**(a) How many people were assessed**

Please see attached spreadsheet and caveat provided under question 2.

**(b) What the percentage of Adult ADHD Assessments resulted in an ADHD diagnosis**

Again, this information is not held in a reportable manner. We are unable to give the number of assessments that resulted in a ADHD diagnosis without manually scrutinising the service users record.

**(c) Please provide the information for (a) and (b) split by gender**

**(d) Please provide the information for (a) and (b) split by ethnicity.**

Please see attached spreadsheet and caveat provided under question 2.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 1(1) Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled (a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and (b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him.

**(6) For those that were rejected at the screening stage. [Only include if this question does not take the question over the cost limit]**

**(a) For the past year how many rejected individuals had ADHD mentioned and dismissed previously in their medical records.**

**(i) Please provide the information for (a) split by gender**

**(ii) Please provide the information for (a) split by ethnicity.**

We are unable to provide data on rejected individuals. Please see explanation given under question 4.

**(b) What is the Trust's policy regarding (a)**

Our Single Point of Access will consider if there are recommendations for signposting and provide this on a referral by referral basis.

**(c) The understanding of ADHD has changed substantially in recent years. How does the trust ensure that their policy does not compound errors of the past.**

The Trust refers to National Institute for Health and Care Excellent guidance, which is regularly updated, and applies this.

Should you require further clarification or like to discuss payment, 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](#).

