

3 October 2023

Information Rights & Compliance Team
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Our Ref: FOI/04876

Thank you for your request concerning Asperger Syndrome.

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

Asperger Syndrome, as coded F84.5 in the ICD-10, is distinct from a learning disability. It has its characteristics and diagnostic criteria, separate from learning disabilities.

Q1. Given these clear distinctions, does the trust does consider a diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome to be an indicator of a learning disability by default ?

No

Q2. If the patient has demonstrated that they have a IQ within the top 2% of the population by various means, such as proof of membership of Mensa does the trust still consider the patient to have a learning disability by default despite obviously not fulfilling one of the mandatory criteria in regards to intellectual functioning ?

No

Q3. What is the Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust's definition of a "Learning Disability"

As per the NICE guidelines / equivalent.

Q4. What procedure does the Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust use to diagnose a "learning Disability"

Where an assessment of learning disability is required (though this is usually clear from the history and established diagnoses before a person is referred to adult LD services), then psychometric testing conducted by a suitably trained / experienced psychologist to establish the level of cognitive & functional impairment, supplemented by history taking from the individual and suitable informants to establish the developmental history.

Should you require further clarification, 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](#).

