



**The Clatterbridge  
Cancer Centre**  
NHS Foundation Trust

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Date: 29 March 2021

**Re: Freedom of Information Request**  
**Ref: 68-2021**

Thank you for your email dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021, requesting information in relation to deferrals or postponement in treatment of lung cancer patients.

The information that you require is as follows:

- **How many patients were informed their Lung Cancer treatment would be deferred or cancelled within the period of March 2019 until August 2019. Can I also request the same data covering March 2020 to August 2020?**

**Note:**

- *The term 'cancelled' covers a wide range of scenarios and does not imply that a patient's treatment was delayed. For example, appointments will show as 'cancelled by hospital' if a patient's treatment plan changes, if they pass away or if their treatment location changes.*
- *The term 'deferred' refers to patients who attended their appointment but could not be treated e.g. because they were too unwell.*
- *Due to the nature of cancer treatment, individual patients often have multiple appointments per month. The figures in Q3 and Q4 cannot therefore be used as denominators for the figures in Q1 and Q2.*
- *The figures below are taken from treatment appointment outcomes.*

Year	Appointment Date	Cancelled by Hospital	Cancelled by Patient	Deferred	Total
2019	Mar	223	32	86	341
	Apr	330	43	102	475
	May	319	35	76	430
	Jun	308	59	85	452
	Jul	314	31	91	436
	Aug	249	53	98	400
2020	Mar	341	60	71	472
	Apr	315	61	59	435
	May	204	27	39	270
	Jun	161	19	67	247
	Jul	224	40	93	357
	Aug	196	26	66	288
<b>Total</b>		<b>3184</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>4603</b>

- For the above request, the data should preferably be categorised into different types of cancer treatments etc. Chemotherapy, surgery

**Note:**

- *The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre provides tertiary cancer care and does not undertake surgery. Data provided is for Chemotherapy (SACT) / Radiotherapy (RT) treatments only.*

Years	Attendance Date	Cancelled by Hospital		Cancelled by Patient		Deferred		Total
		RT	SACT	RT	SACT	RT	SACT	
2019	Mar	59	164	2	30	13	73	341
	Apr	126	204	6	37	12	90	475
	May	114	205	0	35	8	68	430
	Jun	133	175	26	33	3	82	452
	Jul	126	188	3	28	18	73	436
	Aug	82	167	14	39	21	77	400
2020	Mar	115	226	10	50	13	58	472
	Apr	92	223	26	35	7	52	435
	May	80	124	7	20	10	29	270
	Jun	27	134	3	16	12	55	247
	Jul	56	168	23	17	29	64	357
	Aug	66	130	4	22	2	64	288
<b>Total</b>		<b>1076</b>	<b>2108</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>4603</b>

- How many patients were being treated for Lung Cancer overall at this trust each month between March to August 2019 and March to August 2020?

**Note:**

- *Patients are counted once per month (i.e. if they have multiple cycles of chemotherapy or multiple fractions of radiotherapy per month, the first treatment in the month is counted)*

Years	Date	Total Treated
2019	Mar	473
	Apr	474
	May	469
	Jun	451
	Jul	457
	Aug	443
2020	Mar	456
	Apr	340
	May	304
	Jun	363
	Jul	383
	Aug	366

- How many patients were diagnosed with Lung Cancer at this trust overall, spanning the period of March 2019 to today?

**Note:**

- *We are a tertiary cancer centre and patients are referred to us following diagnosis. They are not diagnosed at the Trust. The figures below relate to patients who were referred to us after diagnosis but whose diagnosis date was in the specified month.*

Years	Diagnosis Date	Total Patients
2019	Mar	111
	Apr	97
	May	110
	Jun	94
	Jul	137
	Aug	103
	Sep	114
	Oct	117
	Nov	105
	Dec	77

2020	Jan	89
	Feb	109
	Mar	116
	Apr	68
	May	56
	Jun	80
	Jul	103
	Aug	96
	Sep	98
	Oct	105
	Nov	102
	Dec	99
2021	Jan	83
	Feb	73
<b>Total</b>		<b>2342</b>

- Please can you tell me the average waiting time for treatment of Lung Cancer patients, from diagnosis to commencement of treatment (e.g. surgery, chemotherapy) each month from March 2019 to today?

**Note:**

- *This relates to those patients diagnosed in the period (March 2019 to February 2021)*

Years	Diagnosis Date	Average of <u>Days</u> to treatment (Chemo or RT) from diagnosis	
2019	Mar	19	
	Apr	21	
	May	22	
	Jun	20	
	Jul	16	
	Aug	17	
	Sep	19	
	Oct	20	
	Nov	19	
	Dec	27	
	2020	Jan	26
		Feb	22
Apr		26	
May		18	

	Jun	18
	Jul	22
	Aug	22
	Sep	18
	Oct	17
	Nov	14
	Dec	19
2021	Jan	19
	Feb	15

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address provided below.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for this to be investigated internally.

If you are dissatisfied with the information you have received, you have the right to ask for an internal review.

Both processes will be handled in accordance with our Trust's Freedom of Information Policy and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Internal investigation and internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Freedom of Information Review, The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust, Clatterbridge Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 4JY

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal investigation/review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

**In order for us to ensure customer satisfaction and to monitor compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would be grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete a short feedback form via the link below:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H39RFMM>