

Date: 20 January 2022

**Re: Freedom of Information Request**  
**Ref: 10-2022**

Thank you for your email dated the 17/1/22, requesting information in relation to PET-CT scans.

The information that you require is as follows:

**In any multiple-choice questions, we ask that you please indicate your answer by marking with an “X” next to any answers that apply or by deleting all answers that do not apply. Please avoid answering by italics, underlining or bold, as these do not show up when we process your response.**

1. Does your trust/ HB have access to PET-CT for the investigation of suspected biochemical recurrence in prostate cancer patients?
  - b. Not on site, but we refer patients elsewhere (please state the trust/HB patients are referred to, if possible:) Royal Liverpool Hospital**
2. If you answered “No” to question 1. Would you use PET-CT for the investigation of suspected biochemical recurrence in prostate cancer patients if it were available?
  - c. N/A - We already have access to PET-CT. However, we are aiming to start our own service during 2022.**
3. In 2020-21, how many patients do you estimate were investigated for suspected biochemical recurrence of prostate cancer at your trust/ HB? **150**
4. What percentage of patients with suspected biochemical recurrence do you estimate are referred for PET-CT at your trust/ HB? **20%**

5. **Of patients with suspected biochemical recurrence referred for PET-CT, what % of scans do you estimate use a PSMA tracer (either Ga-PSMA or F-PSMA)?** 100%
6. **Are there any exclusion criteria for referral for PET-CT for suspected biochemical recurrence of prostate cancer? If so, what are they? E.g. Upper and lower PSA limits, age, life expectancy, ECOG score.** If there are 2-3 abnormal findings on standard imaging and they are not suitable for salvage treatment or Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy, we would not refer for PET/CT.
7. **What do you estimate is the average waiting time for the PET-CT scans for investigation of suspected biochemical recurrence of prostate cancer?** 4-6 weeks
8. **What do you estimate is the average time it takes to report PET-CT scans for investigation of suspected biochemical recurrence of prostate cancer?** 3-5 days

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>

Kind Regards,

Margaret Moore  
Information Governance Administrator  
Contact Email: [ccf-tr.foi@nhs.net](mailto:ccf-tr.foi@nhs.net)