

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018

**Re: Freedom of Information Request**  
**Ref: 01- 2018**

Thank you for your email dated 3rd January 2018 requesting various information regarding Molecular testing strategies for Lynch syndrome in people with colorectal cancer.

Please find our response below:

**Please could you provide us with information on the following questions? We would appreciate it if you could select the answers to the written questions below by either highlighting the appropriate response or deleting the inapplicable.**

**1. Do you test newly diagnosed bowel cancer patients in your trust (either contracted or referred) for molecular features of Lynch syndrome using either immunohistochemistry or microsatellite instability testing?**

- Yes – all bowel cancer patients, as per DG 27 NICE guidance
- Yes - everyone under the age of 70
- Yes – everyone under the age of 50
- Yes – according to family history of the disease
- No
- Other

**2. If yes, at what stage does this testing take place?**

- Pre-treatment i.e. at diagnosis (on a biopsy of the tumour)
- Post treatment i.e. test is carried out on the tumour resection specimen only.
- Not applicable

**3. Is this test carried out as a reflex test i.e. automatically or upon referral?**

- Reflex
- Referral via MDT
- Referral via Genetics Centre
- Referral via GP
- Other (please explain)
- Not applicable

4. In their published adoption support resource NICE suggest identifying a named 'clinical champion' within each colorectal multidisciplinary team to effectively implement testing people for molecular features for Lynch syndrome. Is this established in your trust?

- Yes, Gastroenterologist
- Yes, Colorectal Surgeon
- Yes, Oncologist
- Yes, Clinical Geneticist
- Other (please explain)
- No

5. Do you audit diagnostic outcomes within your trust to ensure that every patient is tested for molecular features for Lynch syndrome?

- Yes, as part of private audit
- Yes, and the data is publicly released
- No

6. Have you had to submit a business case for funding in order to effectively implement this new guidance?

- Yes, and additional funding was provided fully/partially as requested. Please provide information.
- Yes, but no additional funding was provided. Please provide information on why.
- No please provide information on why.

7. If no such testing is in place, do you have information on whether there are any plans to introduce molecular testing for Lynch syndrome as per NICE guidance?

8. What are the main barriers you have faced if no molecular testing or only selected testing is performed? Please specify.

- Financial
- Policy
- Awareness of current guidance
- Staff resources

- **Other (please specify)**

**We do not conduct Molecular testing strategies for Lynch syndrome in people with colorectal cancer within our Trust as we do not perform diagnostic biopsy. Therefore the information that you have requested is not applicable to our Trust.**

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>**