



**The Clatterbridge
Cancer Centre**
NHS Foundation Trust

Clatterbridge Road
Bebington
Wirral
CH63 4JY

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Date: 11 November 2019

Re: Freedom of Information Request
Ref: 293 - 2019

Thank you for your email dated the 15th October 2019, requesting information with regards to pelvic radiation disease.

The information that you require is as follows:

- 1. In your Cancer Alliance area, do you have specialist clinics for patients who have had treatment for cervical cancer and are experiencing the late effects of pelvic radiotherapy, e.g. bowel or urinary issues (also known as pelvic radiation disease or PRD)?**
 - a. If so, please give details of:**
 - i. The clinic(s) name and opening times**
 - ii. Annual caseload**
 - iii. The proportion of patients referred direct from oncology**
 - iv. The proportion of patients referred from their GP**

We do not hold specialist clinics dedicated to this in our Cancer Alliance area. However, there is a Gastroenterology specialist based at the Royal Liverpool Hospital and specialist dietitians at The Liverpool Womens Hospital who will accept referrals.

- 2. Does your oncology team have a standardised method of identifying people with PRD for referral (e.g. by asking patients the questions in the ALERT-B tool to support the clinical assessment of patients suitable for referral to a gastroenterologist)?**

No, we do not have a standardised method of identifying people with PRD for referral

3. Does your radiotherapy centre ensure patients are aware of possible acute and long-term side effects of pelvic radiotherapy before they undergo treatment? If so, how?

Yes, this is done via our consent process where all side effects are discussed with our patients, and we provide information leaflets which are also explained during our consent process.

4. Does your radiotherapy centre offer a range of materials to support with acute or late effects of radiotherapy, e.g. booklets, symptom checklist, toilet cards? If so, what materials do you provide?

Yes, information booklets are provided.

5. Do your gastroenterologists and dieticians use the PRD bowel algorithm, published in 'The Practical Management of the Gastrointestinal Symptoms of Pelvic Radiation Disease'?

[https://www.macmillan.org.uk/ images/practical-management-gi-symptoms-pelvic-radiation-disease_tcm9-300557.pdf](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/images/practical-management-gi-symptoms-pelvic-radiation-disease_tcm9-300557.pdf)

As a tertiary specialist cancer treatment centre we do not have any gastroenterologists under our employment. Our dietitians are not aware of the PRD Bowel algorithm but will see patients with PRD if referred to the service.

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>