



Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group

REF: FOI 033

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24 May 2019

Dear Requestor

Request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

On 13 May 2019 you sent a request, made under the Freedom of Information Act, relating to Axial Spondyloarthritis Services. I now provide this information as an attachment.

I trust that this is the information you require and that your request has been fully discharged.

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Please note that, under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, if you wish to publish or otherwise use this information besides for your own means, you will need to seek our permission to do so.

If you are unhappy with this response, you are entitled to request an internal review of our decision, handled where possible by a member of staff not directly involved in the initial decision. If you wish to request such a review, please write direct to the Data Protection Officer, NHS Dorset, Ground Floor, West Wing, Vespasian House, Barrack Road, Dorchester DT1 1TG. We aim to deal with requests for internal review within three weeks of receipt, although where the issues involved are very complicated this period may be extended up to a total of six weeks.

If you have queries about this response, please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

Signature Removed

Paddy Baker
Data Protection Officer
NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group

Assessing variation in Axial Spondyloarthritis Services

Freedom of Information Request

May 2019

About you

Recognition and Referral

1. Does your CCG have a specified pathway from primary care to secondary care for inflammatory back pain in place?

Please select one of the following response options

- Yes
- No

If you answered 'yes', please give details below of the pathway and, if applicable, arrangements in place to raise awareness in primary care

Low Back and Radicular Pain Pathway

If neither of the above response options apply to you, please provide more information on your local arrangements below

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Diagnosis in specialist care settings

2. What is the average current waiting time to diagnosis for a patient referred with inflammatory back pain?

Please select one of the following response options

Option	Please tick here (one option only)
Less than 1 month	NHS Dorset CCG does not hold this Information.
1 – 2 months	
2 – 3 months	
3 – 4 months	
4 – 5 months	
5 – 6 months	
6 – 12 months	
More than 12 months	

3. Are patients with suspected axial SpA (AS) routinely referred for a full spinal MRI?

Please select one of the following response options

Option	Please tick here (one option only)
Yes	NHS Dorset CCG does not hold this Information.
No	

If neither of the above response options apply to you, please provide more information on your local arrangements below

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Information and Support

4. How do you ensure patients are given information and support following their diagnosis?
Please select whichever response options apply

Option	Please tick here (multiple responses if applicable)
Written information	
Verbal information	
Access to a helpline	
Named contact in the team	
Group educational sessions	
Other (please provide details below)	NHS Dorset CCG does not hold this Information.

Pharmacological management of axial SpA (AS)

5. What guidance are patients with axial SpA (AS) given when deciding whether to access biologic treatment?
Please provide details of arrangements in your local area below

NHS Dorset CCG does not hold this Information.

6. Bearing in mind the NICE anti TNF guidance for ankylosing spondylitis (TA383) states that, 'Treatment with another anti TNF is recommended for people who cannot tolerate, or whose disease has not responded to, treatment with the first TNF-alpha inhibitor, or whose disease has stopped responding after an initial response', after failure with one biologic, how many other biologics will your commissioners fund a patient with axial SpA (AS) to try, including IL 17As?

Please select one of the following response options

Option	Please tick here (one option only)
None	NHS Dorset CCG does not hold this Information.
1	
2	
3 or more	

If none of the above response options apply to you, please provide more information on your local arrangements below

Non-pharmacological management of axial SpA

7. What proportion of adults with axial SpA (AS) are referred to a specialist physiotherapist for a structured exercise programme within your local area when first diagnosed?

Please provide details below

NHS Dorset CCG does not hold this Information.

Flare management

8. What percentage of patients with axial SpA (AS) have a written care plan to support them with a flare?

Please provide details below

NHS Dorset CCG does not hold this Information.

Organisation of care

9. Does the Trust have a dedicated axial SpA (AS) clinic?

Please select one of the following response options

Option	Please tick here (one option only)
Yes	<i>NHS Dorset CCG does not hold this Information.</i>
No	

If neither of the above response options apply to you, please provide more information on your local arrangements below

Mental health and well being

10. Are axial SpA (AS) patients under the care of a rheumatologist offered access to psychological services?

Please select one of the following response options

Option	Please tick here (one option only)
Yes	<i>NHS Dorset CCG does not hold this</i>

	Information.
No	

If you ticked 'yes', please specify the services on offer