

Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI- -12025-0001375

Date: 17.2.25

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please see response below.

Freedom of Information – Claudication Services

Services

Q1. Does your Trust currently provide a vascular service for the diagnosis and treatment of vascular diseases, specifically including vascular surgery and interventional vascular radiology?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Q2. If vascular services are available, is your organisation designated as a specialist vascular care centre or a hub centre within the network of care providers? (please select all that apply)

Specialist services: *providing diagnostics and expert advice in an outpatient setting and providing elective and 24/7 emergency vascular services.*

Hub centre: *providing diagnostics and expert advice in an outpatient setting.*

☒ Specialist centre

☐ Hub

☐ Other (Please specify)

Claudication clinics

Intermittent claudication: Intermittent claudication is the most common clinical symptom associated with peripheral arterial disease — walking (exercise) induced pain in the lower limbs caused by diminished circulation that is relieved by rest.

Q3. In your organisation, are there specific claudication clinics for patients with intermittent claudication?

☒ Yes

☒ No – If no please skip to question Q10

Q4. If yes, which healthcare professional usually sees patients in these clinics? Please select all that apply.

☐ Vascular surgeon/medical doctor

☐ Vascular nurse specialist

☐ Allied health professional

☐ Other (Please specify)

Q5. In your organisation, what is the format of claudication clinics? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Diagnostic testing
- ☐ Disease counselling and treatment planning
- ☐ Offer lifestyle management
- ☐ Offer exercise
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Q6. How frequently are claudication specialist clinics held?

- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Every 2–4 weeks
- ☐ Every 2–4 months
- ☐ Less frequently than all the above options
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Q7. What is the standard interval for routine follow-up for patients diagnosed with intermittent claudication?

- ☐ Every 1 month,
- ☐ Every 3–6 months
- ☐ Every 12 months
- ☐ Determined by clinical need
- ☐ No formal follow-up
- ☐ Not Known
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Q9. In your organisation, what is the current waiting time for patients with intermittent claudication between referral and 1st appointment in the vascular specialist clinics?

Please specify

Exercise

Q10. Are patients with intermittent claudication who attend your Trust offered a supported exercise programme specifically designed for claudication? Please select all that apply.

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Verbal advice only

Q11. What is the format of the exercise programme for patients with claudication? Please select all that apply.

- ☒ Supervised classes in hospital or community setting
- ☐ Virtual Supervised classes at home
- ☐ App based directed exercise at home
- ☐ Home/Unsupervised
- ☐ Don't Know

Q12. If a structured programme exists, where is this programme provided?

- ☒ Your hospital/ Trust, i.e within your organisation
- ☐ Another hospital/ Trust, i.e outside your organisation
- ☐ Referral to primary care setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Referral to a private setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Q13. Over what duration do these supervised exercise programmes typically last for patients diagnosed with claudication?

- ☐ 4-8 weeks
- ☒ 12–16 weeks

- ☐ More frequently than all the above options (Please specify)
- ☐ Less frequently than all the above options (Please specify)

Q14. How long are the classes (in minutes)?

- ☒ 30-60 minutes
- ☐ 60–90 minutes
- ☐ More frequently than all the above options (Please specify)
- ☐ Less frequently than all the above options (Please specify)

Q15. How often/frequently (times per week) do the classes meet?

- ☐ Once per week
- ☐ Every 2–4 weeks
- ☐ Every 2–4 months
- ☐ Less frequently than all the above options
- ☒ Other (Please specify)3 times per week.....

Q16. Which healthcare professionals are involved in delivering the classes? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Physiotherapist
- ☐ Nurse
- ☒ Exercise professional
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Smoking

Q17. In your organisation, where do you offer a smoking cessation service to patients with intermittent claudication?

- ☐ Your hospital/ Trust, i.e within your organisation
- ☐ Another hospital/ Trust, i.e outside your organisation
- ☒ Referral to primary care setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Referral to a private setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Dietetics

Q18. In your organisation, where do you offer a dietetics service to patients with intermittent claudication?

- ☐ Your hospital/ Trust, i.e within your organisation
- ☐ Another hospital/ Trust, i.e outside your organisation
- ☒ Referral to primary care setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Referral to a private setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Psychology

Q19. Does your organisation offer a psychology service specific for patients with intermittent claudication?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No – If no please skip to question Q21

Q20. Is there a screening pathway for patients with intermittent claudication to be referred to a psychologist?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No – If no please skip to question Q21

Referral

Q21 What are the available pathways or methods by which patients with intermittent claudication are referred to the vascular service in your organisation? Please select all that apply:

- ☐ Vascular staff screen lists of hospital ward patients
- ☐ A telephone/pager referral system
- ☒ A paper referral form (collected in person/faxed/posted)
- ☒ Secure email system
- ☒ Electronic computerised system (e.g. patient record system)

☐ Other (Please specify)

Q22. Is there a standard proforma for referral to vascular?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other (Please specify)

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager

Trust Headquarters

Russell's Hall Hospital

Dudley

West Midlands

DY1 2HQ

Email: dgft.dpo@nhs.net

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113

www.ico.org.uk

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust