

Date: 08/10/2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST - Ref: FOI/012396 - VTE in cancer

Part 1: Incidence

Question 1: How many patients has your Trust treated for cancer (of all types) in each of the past three years?

- a) 2014 - **2858**
- b) 2013 - **2481**
- c) 2012 - **2788**

Question 2: Of the patients treated for cancer, how many also had a diagnosis of venous thromboembolism (VTE) {VTE is defined by the following ICD 10 codes: I80.0-I80.3, I80.8-I80.9, I82.9, O22.2 – O22.3, O87.0 – O87.1, I26.0, and I26.9} in each of the past three years?

- a) 2014 - **24**
- b) 2013 - **23**
- c) 2012 - **20**

Question 3: Of the patients treated for cancer who also had a diagnosis of VTE in each of the past three years, how many:

	2014	2013	2012	Notes
Were receiving chemotherapy?	2	5	3	
Had metastatic disease?	15	11	10	
Had localised disease?	9	12	10	Any that are not 'Metastatic' have been assumed as Localised as these are not coded
Were treated for brain cancer?	0	0	2	
Were treated for lung cancer?	3	3	3	
Were treated for uterine cancer?	0	0	1	
Were treated for bladder cancer?	1	1	0	
Were treated for pancreatic cancer?	3	4	1	
Were treated for stomach cancer?	2	4	0	
Were treated for kidney cancer?	0	2	1	

Part 2: Mortality

The Trust does not clinically code the 'cause of death'. The Trust clinically codes 'treatment' and 'diagnosis'. The Trust is therefore unable to respond to this section Questions 4 – 6.

Question 4: In how many patient deaths within your Trust was cancer (of any type) listed as the **primary** cause of death in each of the past three years:

- a) 2014 -
- b) 2013 -
- c) 2012 -

Question 5: Of the patients who died within your Trust, in how many was VTE **as well** as cancer listed as a cause of death in each of the past three years:

- a) 2014 -
- b) 2013 -
- c) 2012 -

Question 6: Of the patients who died in your Trust who had both VTE **and** cancer listed as a cause of death, how many:

	2014	2013	2012
Were receiving chemotherapy?			
Were treated for brain cancer?			
Were treated for lung cancer?			
Were treated for uterine cancer?			
Were treated for bladder cancer?			
Were treated for pancreatic cancer?			
Were treated for stomach cancer?			
Were treated for kidney cancer?			

Part 3: Advice given to patients

Question 7: Are patients who receive chemotherapy provided with written and verbal information about the risk of developing VTE during chemotherapy?

Verbal and written information in relation specifically to the proposed treatment are provided during the pre-treatment nurse consultation when VTE is a known complication of the patient's planned treatment. There is also written information and advice within the 'Understanding Chemotherapy' book provided to patients at the outset of treatment in relation to increased risk, indications and action to be taken if VTE is suspected.

Question 8: Are patients who receive chemotherapy provided with written and verbal information which outlines the symptoms suggestive of VTE?

There is written information and advice within the 'Understanding Chemotherapy' book provided to patients at the outset of treatment in relation to increased risk, indications and action to be taken if VTE is suspected

Question 9: Are patients who receive chemotherapy provided with written and verbal information regarding what action they should take if they suspect a Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) or Pulmonary Embolism (PE)?

There is written information and advice within the 'Understanding Chemotherapy' book provided to patients at the outset of treatment in relation to increased risk, indications and action to be taken if VTE is suspected

Patients are provided with verbal and written contact details for a nurse-led 24 hour triage helpline to contact if they suspect that they are unwell during treatment or are experiencing side effects of treatment. This is not however specific to VTE recognition.

Question 10: Does your Trust have a policy or pathway for the management of suspected VTE in patients receiving chemotherapy?

Yes – Management of Cancer Related Thromboembolism Guideline