

Trust Headquarters  
Russells Hall Hospital  
Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY1 2HQ

**Ref:** FOI-082025-0001810

**Date:** 8.10.25

**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.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting aggregate information regarding services provided or commissioned by your Trust in relation to peripheral neuropathic pain (PNP), with a specific focus on:

- Post-surgical neuropathic pain (PSNP)
- Cancer-related neuropathic pain (CRNP)
- Painful diabetic peripheral neuropathy (PDPN)

Please break down the information by individual service, clinic, and by hospital site.

**1. Patient Numbers & Treatment Modalities (Last 12 Months) - 1577.**

For each hospital site or service, please provide:

A) The number of patients seen for each of the following conditions: - PSNP - CRNP (please split into surgically induced and chemotherapy-induced) - PDPN - Please also break this down by hospital department.

**Unfortunately, we do not keep this data.**

**Treatment Modalities**

B) For each hospital site or service, please indicate Yes or No as to whether the following treatment modalities are available for PNP. Where stated yes please provide patient numbers for the latest 12-month period.

Gabapentin prescriptions – **Yes but unable to run a report for patient numbers**

Botulinum toxin (Botox) injections – **Yes but unable to run a report for patient numbers**

TENS (Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation) **Yes but unable to run a report for patient numbers**

Acupuncture (including PENS – Percutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation) **Yes but unable to run a report for patient numbers**

Theatre-based nerve stimulation procedures (e.g., spinal cord stimulators or other implanted/surgical neuromodulation devices) - **No**

If exact numbers are unavailable, proxy data is acceptable (e.g., the percentage of neuropathic pain patients receiving each treatment modality).

## 2. Service Provision

Does your Trust or provider offer specific or dedicated services for PSNP, CRNP, and/or PDPN? – If yes, please list each relevant service or site (e.g., pain clinic, neurology clinic, diabetic foot clinic, community pain service) along with their addresses.

**Pain clinic will see these patients but not a dedicated service for these conditions, We run a lot of dedicated procedure clinics like Qutenza for neuropathic pain, lidocaine infusion sessions for specific conditions, intrathecal pump refill services, Botox for migraine, acupuncture etc.**

For each listed site or service, please indicate: - The types of healthcare professionals routinely involved (e.g., pain specialists, neurologists, specialist nurses, physiotherapists, psychologists) – The number of staff per role (headcount or FTE if available)

**Consultant in Pain management – 3,  
Advance Pain Practitioners (physiotherapist) 2,  
Physiotherapists 1,  
Nurses 4  
Psychologists 1**

## 3. Referral Pathways & Service Specifications

Are there established care pathways, referral criteria, or service specifications for PSNP, CRNP, and/or PDPN? - If yes, please supply relevant documents or summaries. - If not, please clarify whether these conditions fall under broader chronic pain, MSK, diabetes, or oncology pathways.

**These fall within broader chronic pain pathways**

## 4. Clinical Guidelines, Protocols, Strategic Plans

Has the Trust developed or contributed to any strategic plans, business cases, or service specifications for PSNP, CRNP, or PDPN?

- If so, please provide relevant documents, including any timelines and associated funding information.

Are there any specific clinical guidelines, care pathways, or treatment protocols in use? For example: - NICE CG173 - NEUPSIG - Local pathways for diabetes- or oncology-related neuropathy

- If yes, please provide copies or summaries of key components.

**At the moment we do not have specific pathways for each condition as mentioned. Cancer pain cases are prioritised, but there are plans to develop cancer pain services and develop a pathway in future liaising with oncology and palliative care team.**

**For conditions like chronic back pain, Chronic widespread pain etc, we use the specified NG 59, NG193 in conjunction with FPM (faculty of Pain medicine) recommendations. Even whilst prescribing opioids we follow opioid aware guidelines from FPM**

## 5. Funding & Budgets

What was the total expenditure on neuropathic pain services in the most recent full financial year? - If no specific figure is available, please provide overall pain management funding and any known distribution (e.g., primary/community vs secondary care).

- Please indicate the type of funding, e.g. tariff or block contract

**Block contract**

## 6. Planned or Recent Service Changes

Are there any recent, ongoing, or planned changes to: - Commissioning arrangements - Referral pathways - Service structure - Clinical treatment options for PSNP, CRNP, or PDPN? If yes, please provide details, including the relevant sites, timelines, and the rationale for these changes.

**We are not aware of any changes to commissioning arrangement or referral pathways**

## 7. Data Format and Guidance

Please provide all data in a machine-readable format (e.g., Excel or CSV).

- If any part of the request is unclear or may exceed appropriate cost/time limits, please contact me to discuss refinement, in accordance with Section 16 of the FOI Act.

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](mailto: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](http://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**