

Ref: FOI/00379/CMICB
19 May 2023

Dear,

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000
High-Intensity Focused Ultrasound**

Thank you for your information request indicated in bold below, which has now been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 by NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB). I can provide you with the following information and responses.

Please note from 01 July 2022, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) were disestablished, and their statutory functions and responsibilities inherited by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB.

Your Request:

- 1) Is focal therapy using high-intensity focused ultrasound available as treatment for localised prostate cancer in your region, if so where?**
- 2) If not, is it possible for patients who are deemed clinically suitable to have referral outside your region, and will their treatment cost be covered in full at a hospital outside the region where this treatment is offered?**

Our Response:

1 - 2) Focal therapy using high-intensity focused ultrasound as treatment for localised prostate cancer is not available within the Cheshire and Merseyside ICB region. The Cheshire & Merseyside Cancer Alliance have advised that currently it is not clear which patients would benefit/be clinically suitable or what the Oncological outcomes would be when compared with standard of care, as a consequence they are investigating participation in the PART Trial lead by Oxford University.

For further information on cancer treatments you may wish to redirect your request to The Cheshire & Merseyside Cancer Alliance, which is hosted by The Clatterbridge Cancer Care Resource Center NHS Foundation Trust, and can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via: ccf-tr.foi@nhs.net

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact us to discuss.

We also wish to take this opportunity to inform you that, where you are not satisfied with the response to your request for information, a formal complaints and internal review process is available.

This can be formally requested by emailing foi@cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk and must be done within a reasonable time period (3 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you remain dissatisfied with our review under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at;

*The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk*

Should you need any further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us quoting the above FOI reference.