Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act Reference 2021.776
Released 16 April 2021

Thank you for your email received 15 April 2021 requesting information regarding skin cancer service and treatment.

Please find detailed below a summary of your request, together with our response.

Summary of your original request:

1. ***Within your NHS Trust could you confirm what 'follow up regime' you normally provide for newly diagnosed patients by Melanoma Stage (IA-IIC) and the number of years (1 to 5) the follow up continues for, in line with your clinical protocols? To help with completion we have inserted a table below. Or please provide back in excel if easier.***

|Melanoma Stage at diagnosis| |No. follow up visits in 1st Year | |No. follow up visits in 2nd Year | |No. follow up visits in 3rd Year | |No. follow up visits in 4th Year | |No. follow up visits in 5th Year |

IA

IB

IIA

IIB

IIC

2. ***Could you please provide a copy of the latest service specification for your Melanoma skin cancer service at the Trust, which shows the care pathway that you provide? Normally found under 'Schedule 2' of the Standard contract in place, with your commissioner***

3. ***Could you please confirm if you use any 'send away dermatopathology services' within your NHS Trust? A send away or referral service is one where the pathology work is contracted out to a third party laboratory. Yes or No***

4. ***Could you please confirm for your Trust in 2018/19, the following numbers of newly diagnosed Melanoma skin cancer patients and the number of these who have received a subsequent Sentinel Lymph Node biopsy by Melanoma Stage?***

To help with the completion, we have inserted a table below for ease.

| Stage | | Total Patients reviewed | | Total Sentinel lymph nodes completed |

ALL

IA

IB

IIA

IIB

IIC

Please note: To help with this question 4, the OPCS code for Sentinel lymph node is 'O14.2 + ICD-10 code C43 Malignant melanoma of skin', then supported by the cancer stage.

Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust is not commissioned to run skin cancer clinics, therefore we do not hold the information requested. You will need to redirect your enquiry to the Trusts running the acute hospitals. In Kent these are:

- Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust
- East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust
- Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
- Medway NHS Foundation Trust