

Ref. No: 056030522
From: Commercial
Date: 03/05/22
Subject: PCR & LFT test

REQUEST

I am writing today to request a freedom of Information in regards to the following questions for the Year:

- 2020
 - 2021
 - 2022
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- Can Clinical Manager/Administrative personnel refuse a patient treatment/surgery under any reason? And who makes a decision for denying treatment/surgery?
 - Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment/surgery for refusing to do a PCR test?
 - How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not doing a PCR test?
 - Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment or surgery for refusing to do a LFT test?
 - How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not doing a LFT test?
 - Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment/surgery for refusing to wear a face mask?
 - How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not wearing a face mask?
 - Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment or surgery for not wearing a visor?

- How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not wearing a visor?
- What is the difference between a face mask and a visor?
- Can the hospital refuse a patient denial for a chaperone? And if so, Why? What is the protocol for access for a chaperone?

As per national guidance attend alone unless exempt

- If a patient is staying in hospital, can the hospital deny visitation for this patient? If so, Why? What is the protocol for a patient to seek visitation rights?
- What are the protocols whereby the patient is refused treatment or surgery, who makes these decisions? And what happens next?
- Every time a patient is referred to your hospital, how much money does the hospital receive for that patient?

The questions above should include all St Helen's & Knowsley Teaching NHS Trust Hospitals. Would you also send the policies and procedures you have in place for face covering, visor, PCR testing, Lateral Flow Testing. I will look forward to hearing from you soon.

RESPONSE

Each individual point has been responded to. However, most of the responses relate to the various areas of national guidance, which changed at several stages over the course of the pandemic. Various links to some of the guidance have been included below for ease:

<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/hospitals/going-into-hospital/going-into-hospital-as-a-patient/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/new-government-recommendations-for-england-nhs-hospital-trusts-and-private-hospital-providers>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/using-the-nhs-and-other-health-services/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/hospitals/going-into-hospital/visiting-someone-in-hospital/>

- Can Clinical Manager/Administrative personnel refuse a patient treatment/surgery under any reason? And who makes a decision for denying treatment/surgery?

This is a clinical decision based on national guidance and clinical urgency, which may be conveyed to the patient by an administrative member of staff

- Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment/surgery for refusing to do a PCR test?

In accordance with national guidance.

No but the treatment may be rescheduled (based on clinical urgency) so that appropriate precautions can be put in place to protect other patients and staff

- How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not doing a PCR test?

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals Trust does not have to comply with a request if we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £450. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2½ working days in answering the remainder of your questions. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

- Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment or surgery for refusing to do a LFT test?

We have so far not used LFD tests for pre-attendance screening hence not applicable

- How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not doing a LFT test?

N/A

- Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment/surgery for refusing to wear a face mask?

In accordance with national guidance.

No but the treatment may be rescheduled (based on clinical urgency) so that appropriate precautions can be put in place to protect other patients and staff

- How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not wearing a face mask?

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals Trust does not have to comply with a request if we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £450. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2½ working days in answering the remainder of your questions. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

- Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment or surgery for not wearing a visor?

There is no requirement for patients to wear a visor when attending the trust. However, as per previous question, if a patient is refusing to wear PPE, the treatment may be rescheduled (based on clinical urgency) so that appropriate precautions can be put in place to protect other patients and staff

- How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not wearing a visor?

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals Trust does not have to comply with a request if we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £450. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2½ working days in answering the remainder of your questions. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

- What is the difference between a face mask and a visor?

Publicly available information – can be found on a web search

- Can the hospital refuse a patient denial for a chaperone? And if so, Why? What is the protocol for access for a chaperone?

Policy attached

- If a patient is staying in hospital, can the hospital deny visitation for this patient? If so, Why? What is the protocol for a patient to seek visitation rights?

In accordance with national guidance. Visiting restrictions have been in place in line with national guidance, with recognised exceptions including patients requiring support due to dementia or end of life patients.

- What are the protocols whereby the patient is refused treatment or surgery, who makes these decisions? And what happens next?

If a decision is made to reschedule treatment, this is done based on the clinical need of the patient by the treating clinician. Patients are continually tracked, based on waiting times and clinical urgency.

- Every time a patient is referred to your hospital, how much money does the hospital receive for that patient?

Since April 2020 the Trust has received block contract income to support its activities so has not received income for individual activities such as referrals.