

Ref. No: 556
From: Public
Date: 03/04/23
Subject: Oncology treatment for inpatients

REQUEST & RESPONSE

I would like a statement on your Trust's policy - or the details of the policy - regarding oncology treatment for inpatients in your Trust's hospital.

To clarify,

- i. If a patient residing in one of the Trust's hospitals was diagnosed or had previously been diagnosed with cancer, would they be able to receive treatment when they were an inpatient.**

A difficult question to answer because of the many variables and factors to consider which would be on an individual level. However, in theory if a patient had haematological malignancy and required treatment, was medically suitable for treatment, and it was a regime that was able to be given at the trust, and not a tertiary centre then this could happen.

- ii. If not, does the Trust have a policy of patients receiving treatment for cancer only when they are an outpatient - and does this depend on which kind of treatment they receive?**

Again, this is entirely individual. The stage of disease, type of malignancy, site, and the required intensity of treatment required are all factors in determining a decision.

- iii. In addition, could you please confirm the average time it takes from the decision that a patient is medically fit to be discharged until they are discharged.**

Unable to answer, discharge is a multifactorial, multidisciplinary decision and not singularly due to cancer or disease stage. It could involve multiple co-morbidities.

* Please note all answers provided are for haematological, which we treat and take ownership off as a Trust. All other cancers & their treatments are led by the regional centre organisation - Clatterbridge Cancer Centre.