



North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference North East & North Cumbria
ICB FOI 373

NECS - John Snow House
Durham University Science Park
Durham
DH1 3YG

Tel: (0191) 301 1300
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30 May 2023

By Email

Dear Sir or Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information – NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB)

Thank you for your request received by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 15 May 2023 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

NENC ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland and Tees Valley (which covers the 5 councils that make it up – Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees).

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

Your Request

We are seeking the below data via FOI to help us better understand and support the commissioning pressure on ICSs in relation to spirometry tests.

1. How many spirometry tests for diagnosis of breathlessness symptoms were performed in your ICS from 1 April 2022 to 31st March 2023? Please break this down via: General practice; community diagnostic centre; acute trusts, other (please specify any other settings)

2. How many spirometry tests for diagnosis of breathlessness symptoms were performed in your ICS from 1 April 2019 to 31st March 2020? Please break this down via: General practice; community diagnostic centre; acute trusts, other (please specify any other settings)
3. What percentage of general practices within your ICS offer spirometry tests for diagnosis as of the 1st March 2023?
4. What percentage of community diagnostic centres within your ICS offer spirometry tests for diagnosis as of the 1st March 2023?
5. What was the number of people with breathlessness symptoms waiting for a spirometry test for diagnosis as of 1st March 2023?

Our Response

Spirometry tests are provided by the Foundation Trusts. Therefore, NENC ICB does not hold the requested information. Your request will need to be redirected to the following:

NENC Acute Hospital FTs	Email
County Durham & Darlington NHS FT	cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net
Gateshead Health NHS FT	ghnt.foi.enquiries@nhs.net
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT	foirequests@ncic.nhs.uk
North Tees & Hartlepool NHS FT	foi@nth.nhs.uk
Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT	foi@northumbria.nhs.uk
South Tees Hospitals NHS FT	foi@stees.nhs.uk
South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT	stsft.freedomofinformation@nhs.net
The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	nuth.freedom.information@nhs.net

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the NHS ICB website <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/>.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Senior Governance Manager using the contact details at the top of this letter quoting the appropriate reference number.

If you are not content with the outcome your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the North of England Commissioning Support Unit.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House

Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.ico.gov.uk

Any information we provide following your request under the Freedom of Information Act will not confer an automatic right for you to re-use that information, for example to publish it. If you wish to re-use the information that we provide and you do not specify this in your initial application for information then you must make a further request for its re-use as per the Re-Use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015 www.legislation.gov.uk . This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours sincerely

Pamela Coxon

Pamela Coxon
Information Governance Officer