

Our Reference     North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 24-039

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By Email

25 April 2024

Dear Applicant

**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 19 April 2024 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 to improve the national referral pathways and network for adult patients with neuromuscular spastic disorders and orthopaedic surgical needs.

Please could you inform us on local ICB compliance with NICE guidelines NG119, Cerebral Palsy in Adults <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng119>, specifically with regards to the orthopaedic services as summarised here.

Please inform us the location of the services highlighted in the text. Please send us any pathways relevant to the guidelines.

**Access to services**

1.1.1 Refer adults with cerebral palsy to a multidisciplinary team experienced in the management of neurological impairments if:

- their ability to carry out their usual daily activities deteriorates **or**
- a neurosurgical or orthopaedic procedure is being considered that may affect their ability to carry out their usual daily activities.

1.1.3 Commissioners and service providers should develop pathways that allow adults with cerebral palsy access to a local network of care that includes:

- orthopaedic surgery (and post-surgery rehabilitation)

1.1.4 Ensure that adults with cerebral palsy, their families and carers, and their primary care teams are provided with information about their local network of specialist services.

1.2.19 Provide information on accessible local services that support people with cerebral palsy to take part in physical activity.

1.2.20 Consider referring people with cerebral palsy to services with experience and expertise in neurological impairments that can provide support with physical activities (including sport) and tasks of daily living. Depending on local service provision and the person's needs, this may be to any of the following services:

- physiotherapy
- occupational therapy
- orthotic and functional electronic stimulation services
- rehabilitation engineering services
- wheelchair services.

### **Orthopaedic surgery**

1.2.21 If people with cerebral palsy have problems participating in physical activities because of pain or joint problems that do not respond to any other treatments, consider referring them to a musculoskeletal specialist or an orthopaedic surgeon with experience and expertise in managing musculoskeletal problems in adults with cerebral palsy.

## **1.4 Assessment and monitoring of clinical complications and comorbidities**

### **Disorders caused by abnormal musculoskeletal development**

Refer adults with cerebral palsy to a specialist orthopaedic or musculoskeletal service if a bone or joint disorder is suspected and causing pain or affecting posture or function.

### **Our Response**

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB holds some of the information you have requested.

Our providers are commissioned to deliver all relevant NICE guidance.

NENC ICB commissions Neurology services from Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals Foundation Trust (FT), South Tees Hospitals FT, County Durham and Darlington FT and South Tyneside and Sunderland FT. Newcastle hospital trust is also the regional centre for orthopaedic surgery. Treatment for adult patients with neuromuscular spastic disorders and orthopaedic surgical needs will be provided within these services.

On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information regarding pathways. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested. Provider organisations will hold the full details of service delivery.

The North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) does not hold the records which you have sought. However, we have determined the pathway delivery details are held by the Acute Hospital NHS FT within the North East and North Cumbria region, noted above.

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, we have provided the FOI email addresses for those acute hospitals to make your request.

<b>NENC Acute Hospital FTs</b>	<b>Email</b>
County Durham & Darlington NHS FT	cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net
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 accordance 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 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 review, you do have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. 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.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.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](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) . This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours sincerely

*S Davies*

**S Davies**  
**Information Governance Officer**