

Ref. No: 1686
Date: 17/04/25
Subject: Spirometry Service Provision

1. Service Provision

1. Does the Trust currently provide spirometry services in-house, or are these services outsourced/insourced to external providers?

Currently in-house in the cardiorespiratory departments (CRD) across Whiston and St Helens and within the St Helens Community COPD service (COPD Hub)

2. If outsourced or insourced, which providers are currently contracted, and under what terms?

CRD: Per Test TBC, COPD hub: agreement to provide maximum of 20 spirometry per week as part of a block contract arrangement

What are the eligibility criteria for external providers seeking subcontracting opportunities? **No**

2. Tariff and Payment Model

1. What is the current tariff for spirometry services under the NHS Payment System? **TBC**
2. Is the service funded per test, per patient, or under a block contract arrangement? **Per Test TBC**
3. Does the Trust claim reimbursement for spirometry under any specific national or local NHS payment schemes? - ? **No**

3. . Demand, Capacity, and Backlogs

1. How many spirometry tests were conducted annually in the last three years
2. What is the **current backlog** of patients awaiting spirometry testing?
3. What is the **average waiting time** from referral to test?

Area	2022 Jan - Dec	2023 Jan - Dec	2024 Jan - Dec	Backlog	Avg Wait
StHK	2372	3105	3079	229	Currently 9 weeks
Community COPD HUB (St Helens)	222	145 (hub suspended)	263	28 patients awaiting investigations prior to being booked into the HUB	1 week

4. Has the Trust implemented any initiatives to address spirometry service backlogs?

STHK are working closely with their colleagues at St Helens PLACE

Procurement

1. Who is responsible for commissioning or procuring spirometry services within the Trust, e.g., insourcing, outsourcing or subcontracting spirometry services – **CRD: Trust Procurement Team. COPD service: Commissioner is Cheshire and Merseyside ICN - St Helens Place**
2. Are there any planned tenders or procurement exercises for spirometry services in the next 12-24 months? **No**
3. What are the Trust's criteria for **subcontracting spirometry** services to external providers? **NA**

Key Contact Information

1. The name, role, telephone number, and email address of the individuals responsible for **spirometry service insourcing, outsourcing, subcontracting, or service management** within the Trust.

Cardiorespiratory Department

Gina Rogers, Cardio-Respiratory Manager, gina.rogers@merseywestlancs.nhs.uk, 0151 430 1439 in conjunction with Trust Senior Finance Management Team

St Helens COPD Community Service:

Dianne Green Lead COPD Nurse Dianne.Green@merseywestlancs.nhs.uk 01514301553

Ann-Marie Barrow, Head of Operations – Community Services annmarie.barrow@merseywestlancs.nhs.uk 0151 290 4223