

Ref. No: 0670
Date: 08/02/24
Subject: Ophthalmology Information

REQUEST

Under the Freedom of Information Act, we would like to request the answers to the below questions, in relation to your Ophthalmology services at the hospital Trusts.

WET-AMD INJECTIONS:

1. What is the maximum number of wet-AMD injections you can facilitate in a week?
2. Do you run out-of-hours lists to keep up with demand for wet-AMD injections?
 - a. If you are running additional lists, how are these lists being accommodated?
 - b. If you are running additional lists, are you utilising any alternative clinical space?
3. What is the current waiting time for patients to secure an appointment for Wet-AMD injections?
 - a. What was the wait time at the same point in time in 2023?
4. How many patients are currently waiting for an appointment at a wet-AMD clinic?
 - a. What was the wait time at the same point in time in 2023?
5. Do you have a contingency plan to increase capacity should this be required?
 - a. If so, what is your contingency plan for wet-AMD injections?

GENERAL CAPACITY:

1. Are you outsourcing any ophthalmology clinical work to external parties or utilising insourcing partners? If so, what?

2. What condition takes up the majority of your clinical slots?
3. Would you consider a mobile unit as an option to expand services and capacity?
4. What is the name and contact details of the Ophthalmology Service Lead?

RESPONSE

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust became a single legal entity known as Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust on 1st July 2023, as such parts of the response may be provided in two sections relating to the hospital sites of each of the legacy organisations.

WET-AMD INJECTIONS:

1. What is the maximum number of wet-AMD injections you can facilitate in a week?

St Helens and Knowsley:

150

Southport and Ormskirk:

We do not currently provide this service.

2. Do you run out-of-hours lists to keep up with demand for wet-AMD injections?

St Helens and Knowsley:

No

Southport and Ormskirk:

N/A

3. What is the current waiting time for patients to secure an appointment for Wet-AMD injections?

St Helens and Knowsley:

2 weeks

Southport and Ormskirk:

N/A

a. What was the wait time at the same point in time in 2023?

St Helens and Knowsley:

2 weeks

Southport and Ormskirk:

N/A

4. How many patients are currently waiting for an appointment at a wet-AMD clinic?

St Helens and Knowsley:

All patients are booked.

Southport and Ormskirk:

N/A

a. What was the wait time at the same point in time in 2023?

5. Do you have a contingency plan to increase capacity should this be required?

St Helens and Knowsley:

Yes

Southport and Ormskirk:

N/A

a. If so, what is your contingency plan for wet-AMD injections?

St Helens and Knowsley:

Increase list capacity or hold additional lists.

Southport and Ormskirk:

N/A

GENERAL CAPACITY:

- 1. Are you outsourcing any ophthalmology clinical work to external parties or utilising insourcing partners? If so, what?**

No

- 2. What condition takes up the majority of your clinical slots?**

St Helens and Knowsley:

Glaucoma

Southport and Ormskirk:

General Ophthalmology, Cataract, Glaucoma, Diabetic and Oculoplastic.

- 3. Would you consider a mobile unit as an option to expand services and capacity?**

No

- 4. What is the name and contact details of the Ophthalmology Service Lead?**

St Helens and Knowsley:

Andrew O'Brien (Directorate Manager), Andrew.OBrien@sthk.nhs.uk

Southport and Ormskirk:

Paul Flynn (Directorate Manager), Paul.Flynn2@merseywestlancs.nhs.uk