



Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Request Ref: NGFOI 16/17: 11

Response Letter

Thank you for your request for information received at Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust (NGH) on 06.04.16.

I am pleased that we are now able to provide you with a response to your request as shown below.

Response from Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust (NGH):

1. What was the size of the patient population covered by your Trust in 2015?

Please see the detail from our Annual Report 14/15 available on the trust website (15/16 being prepared currently):

We provide general acute services for a population of 380,000 and hyper-acute stroke, vascular and renal services to 692,000 people living throughout the whole of Northamptonshire. The Trust is also an accredited cancer centre, providing services to a wider population of 880,000 who live in Northamptonshire and parts of Buckinghamshire. For one highly specialist urological treatment we serve an even wider catchment.

2. How many patients were diagnosed with heart failure by your Trust in 2015? Are you able to provide data as to how many primary diagnoses were made in 2015?

466 patients

3. Does your Trust follow NICE guidelines to support the diagnosis of suspected heart failure? If not, what guidance does your Trust follow? Please provide a copy

Yes

- a. Please provide the details – including the manufacturer and brand name – of those tests used to support the diagnosis of heart failure

NTpro BNP

4. Does your Trust follow NICE guidelines to support the management of chronic heart failure? If not, what guidance does your Trust follow? Please provide a copy

Yes

- a. Please provide the details – including the manufacturer and brand name – of those tests used to support the management of chronic heart failure

NTpro BNP

5. Does your Trust use NTproBNP or BNP testing to support the diagnosis of heart failure in patients presenting through A&E?

Yes

6. How many NTproBNP tests were performed by your Trust in 2015? Please provide the manufacturer and brand name of the test used

The average number of requests / month for this period was 1015, which would equate to around 12 180 NTpro-BNP requests per annum.

We switched from BNP to NTproBNP on 1st September 2015.

7. Are there any restrictions for using NTproBNP or BNP tests? If yes, please explain

We do not have any restrictions per se, however we do provide advice on the use of NT-proBNP in the diagnosis of Heart Failure.

8. How many echocardiographs were performed at your Trust in 2015?

13215

9. What was the average waiting time for an echocardiogram at your Trust in 2015?

4 weeks