

Reference Number: FOI/LHCH/2016098
From: Commercial
Date: 06 April 2016
Subject: Heart failure

Q1 What was the size of the patient population covered by your Trust in 2015?

A1 Main hospital - Information exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 - 'Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means'.

This information is available on our website, it can be found on our About LHCH page:
<http://www.lhch.nhs.uk/about-lhch/>

Knowsley Community Services - 161,000

Q2 How many patients were diagnosed with heart failure by your Trust in 2015?

A2 Main hospital - Information not held regarding number of patient's diagnosed with heart failure however the number of patients admitted as inpatients during 2015 with a Primary Diagnosis of Heart Failure was 218.

Knowsley Community Services – 161,000

Q3 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

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

A3 Main hospital - The Trust utilises NICE guidelines to support diagnosis of new suspected acute heart failure.

Clinical history, clinical examination and standard investigations – electrocardiography, chest X-ray and blood tests including measurement of serum natriuretic peptides specifically N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic (2014) NICE guideline CG187

Information not held – N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic testing not routinely done on site, tests provided by laboratory at Royal Liverpool University Hospital

The Trust has a machine called 'Triage meter Pro Biosite' which is manufactured by Alere. Information is not held regarding the number of tests conducted utilising this machine.

Q4 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

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

A4 Main hospital - The Trust utilises NICE guidelines to support the management of chronic

heart failure.

Detailed history, and clinical examination and tests to confirm the presence of heart failure.

Patients with suspected heart failure and previous myocardial infarction urgent, transthoracic Doppler 2D echocardiography and specialist assessment..

Measure serum natriuretic peptides (NTproBNP) in patients with suspected heart failure without previous myocardial infarction.

ECG and other tests as required to confirm or exclude alternative diagnoses:

- chest X-ray
- blood tests:
 - electrolytes, urea and creatinine
 - eGFR (estimated glomerular filtration rate)
 - thyroid function tests
 - liver function tests
 - fasting lipids
 - fasting glucose
 - full blood count

Chronic heart failure in adults: management NICE guidelines [CG108] Published date: August 2010

- Information not held - Laboratory testing is performed by external source at Royal Liverpool University Hospital.

Knowsley Community Services - 3 NICE guidelines are followed by the HF team for the management of chronic heart failure and the diagnosis of heart failure with regards to the community patients.

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

A5 Information not held - Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital is a specialist cardiothoracic centre and does not have an A&E Department.

Q6 How many NTproBNP tests were performed by your Trust in 2015? Please provide the manufacturer and brand name of the test used

A6 Information not held – as above tests carried out by Royal Liverpool University Hospital. Please contact them directly at foi@rlbuht.nhs.uk

Q7 Are there any restrictions for using NTproBNP or BNP tests? If yes, please explain

A7 Main hospital - NT-proBNP in adult patients can be affected by several extra-cardiac conditions including pulmonary diseases, endocrine and metabolic disorders, liver cirrhosis with ascites, renal failure, inflammatory diseases, use of cardiotoxic drugs, anemia, obesity, severe infections, and cardiac trauma.

Knowsley Community Services - Not from a community perspective, to my knowledge tests that have been requested have always been completed.

Q8 How many echocardiographs were performed at your Trust in 2015?

A8 Total number of Echos performed in 2015 was 8,100 with average wait of 6 weeks

Q9 What was the average waiting time for an echocardiogram at your Trust in 2015?

A9 Please see A8 above