

Reference Number: FOI202223/216
From: Other
Date: 13 September 2022
Subject: Policies relating to resource prioritisation during the COVID-19 pandemic

Q1 Please provide me with copies of policies (communicated in policy documentation, guidance, internal staff communications and similar) which relate to prioritisation of patients to receive your organisation's resources during the first 18 months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, I am seeking documentation you hold which sets out criteria or factors to be taken into account when selecting patients for:

- a. Admission to hospital for non-elective treatment;
- b. Escalation of inpatients to Critical Care or Intensive Care (ICU/ITU) wards; and/or
- c. Provision of respiratory support using positive airway pressure devices (CPAP/BIPAP) or ventilation.

Please include the policies issued by your organisation and any policies issued by third parties (such as Government bodies or medical professional organisations) in force within your organisation.

Please only supply policies which were issued or updated between 1 January 2020 and 30 June 2021 (inclusive)

A1 Information not held – The Trust does not hold policies or documents specifically setting out the criteria relating to prioritisation of patients during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Clinical guidance was pulled together through local Silver and Gold Command Centres to confirm. This was based on clinical priority and risk.

The first 18 months would have been mainly Non Elective continuation and then clinical priority.

The National P Code policy was also utilised, as per the link below (page 12)

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/wp-content/uploads/sites/52/2020/10/C0760-Clinical-validation-of-surgical-waiting-lists-1-2.pdf>