

**Reference Number:** FOI2021/513  
**From:** Private Individual  
**Date:** 21 March 2022  
**Subject:** Use of Patient Initiated Follow Up pathways

Q1 Please complete the below table, providing figures in relation to the number of patients waiting to start consultant-led Referral to Treatment (RTT), outpatients and Patient Initiated Follow-up (PIFU), which gives patients and their carers the flexibility to arrange their follow-up appointments as and when they need them. I can confirm I am asking for the total number of outpatients waiting at the end of February 2022, inclusive of those waiting for treatment or a follow-up

As at February 2022	Total Number of Patients
Total number of RTT patients waiting to start treatment	Total RTT WL = 4327 Of which 792 have a decision to admit
Total number of outpatients	Total RTT patients on that do not have a decision to admit = 3535  Total Outpatient Waiting List = 5817  Total Outpatient Follow Up Waiting List = 19,437
Of those outpatients, how many are <b>eligible</b> to go on a PIFU pathway	Information not held – the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data.
Of those eligible, how many have been <b>offered</b> to go on a PIFU pathway	Information not held – the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data.
Of those offered, how many are currently <b>placed</b> on a PIFU pathway	We do not record information for how many are eligible and how many have been offered but we do have 96 patients on a PIFU pathway

Q2 Are all outpatients included in the RTT patient numbers?

A2 No

Q3 Does your organisation currently have technology in place to accommodate PIFU pathways? For example, a patient engagement tool for booking PIFU appointments etc.  
a. Who is the supplier of the system?  
b. Please provide further detail on how the technology supports PIFU

A3 Not currently but we are looking at implementing. Funding and possible supplier identified

- Q4 Does your organisation have a clinical task management tool to support PIFU which aids escalation and intervention for patients that could be lost to follow-up or their circumstances have changed
- Who is the supplier of the system?
  - Please provide further detail on how the technology supports PIFU
  - What job role is responsible for making purchasing decisions around task management software at your organisations? E.g. Chief Operating Officer, Chief Information Officer

- A4 No
- Not applicable
  - Not applicable
  - Head of Procurement

- Q5 Does your organisation have an employee or team whose role is involved in administering/co-ordinating PIFU? If yes, please state the number of FTEs involved in PIFU

- A5 No specific roles, it has been incorporated with existing admin, clinical and operational roles.

- Q6 Please complete the table for each of the specialties listed:

A6

Specialty	How many days a month were outpatient clinics run in February 2022?	What specialties are PIFU currently implemented in? (tick for yes)
Mental Health	N/A	
Cardiology	20	Yes
Dermatology	N/A	
Diabetes	N/A	
Endocrinology	N/A	
Gastroenterology	N/A	
Geriatric Medicine	N/A	
Gynaecology	N/A	
Hepatology	N/A	
Neurology	N/A	
Oncology	N/A	
Ophthalmology	N/A	
Palliative medicine	N/A	
Paediatrics services	N/A	
Physiotherapy	N/A	
Rehabilitation	N/A	
Renal medicine	N/A	
Respiratory	20	No
Rheumatology	N/A	
Colorectal surgery	N/A	
Breast Surgery Service	N/A	
Ear, Nose and Throat	N/A	
General Surgery	N/A	
Orthopaedics and Trauma	N/A	

Orthoptics	N/A	
Pain management	N/A	
Plastic surgery	N/A	
Thoracic medicine	17	Yes
Urology	N/A	
Vascular surgery	4	No
Audiology Service	N/A	
Other	N/A	

Q7 How is your organisation measuring the impact of PIFU in these specialties? e.g. size of waiting list, number of weeks patients are waiting for treatment, number of outpatient attendances

A7 Currently number of patients moved and discharged to/from PIFU. 22/23 will start to monitor impact on WL and reduction in follow ups

Q8 Has the implementation of PIFU reduced the operating hours of outpatient clinics? if so, by what percentage since implementation

A8 No