

16 August 2018

Dear

CCG Headquarters
First Floor
Staffordshire Place 2
Stafford
ST16 2LP
Tel: 01785 356944

Re: Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Ref no: CAS-03741-N9D6Z8-CC (NHS Cannock Chase CCG)

CAS-03741-N9D6Z8-SAS (NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG)

CAS-03741-N9D6Z8-SE (NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG)

CAS-03741-N9D6Z8-ES (NHS East Staffordshire CCG)

CAS-03741-N9D6Z8-NS (NHS North Staffordshire CCG)

CAS-03741-N9D6Z8-SOT (NHS Stoke on Trent CCG)

Thank you for your correspondence dated 14 August 2018 making a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information which may be held by NHS Cannock Chase Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), NHS East Staffordshire CCG, NHS North Staffordshire CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG.

You requested the following information and our response is detailed below:

1. Of those with facial nerve palsy who have not made a full or nearly full recovery at 12 weeks following onset, can you provide an estimate of the percentage of such patients who are referred for rehabilitation of persistent facial pain/discomfort and dysfunction?
2. If a patient with facial nerve palsy is routinely referred to secondary care for rehabilitation therapy, which hospital(s) and department(s) do you refer to?
3. If routinely referring a patient with facial nerve palsy for therapy, do you refer to a specialist facial therapist or to a local general physiotherapy team?
 - a. Do you have specific centres that you refer to? If so please indicate which ones.
 - b. What is the average cost of a course of physical rehabilitation therapy?
4. Does the decision-making panel for individual funding requests differentiate between referral to a specialist facial therapist (i.e. with a postgraduate qualification) and a general physiotherapist or speech and language therapist?
5. Is specialist physiotherapy or facial therapy freely available to patients with facial nerve palsy or is it funded on an individual basis?
 - a. If not routinely funded, what is the reason?
6. How many individual funding requests have you received to access specialist physiotherapy or facial therapy in the last 12 months?
 - a. How many were agreed?
 - b. How many were declined?
 - c. If declined, on what basis were they declined?

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Cannock Chase CCG Chair: Dr Mo Huda **East Staffordshire CCG Chair:** Dr Charles Pidsley **North Staffordshire CCG Chair:** Dr Alison Bradley **Stoke on Trent CCG Chair:** Dr Ruth Chambers **Stafford and Surrounds CCG Chair:** Dr Paddy Hannigan **South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG Chair:** Dr Shammy Noor **Accountable Officer:** Marcus Warnes

7. Is Trophic Electrical Stimulation (TES) freely available to patients with facial nerve palsy or is it funded on an individual basis?
- If routinely available, where do you refer patients to for TES?
 - What evidence do you use to support routine funding of TES?
 - If routinely available, what is the average cost of a course of TES?

NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG, NHS East Staffordshire CCG, NHS North Staffordshire CCG and NHS Stoke on Trent CCG do not hold the information requested, please redirect your request to the following providers for each specific CCG listed:

- **NHS North Staffordshire CCG and NHS Stoke on Trent CCG – University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust** <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/contactus/pages/ContactUs.aspx>
- **NHS East Staffordshire CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG – University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust** <http://www.derbyhospitals.nhs.uk/about/freedom-of-information/>
- **NHS North Staffordshire CCG, NHS Stoke on Trent CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG and NHS Cannock Chase CCG – Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust** <http://www.sssf.nhs.uk/about/freedom-of-information>

Right of appeal

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response, or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact the FOI team to discuss. However, if you remain dissatisfied with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request a review of our decision, this can be formally requested in writing and must be within a reasonable period of time (two calendar months) from the date this response was issued

Initially you should write to the freedom of information officer, either by email on MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net or post to Jubilee House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TR, specifying why you feel you have been wrongly denied access to the information requested. The freedom of information team will make sure your request is investigated by an independent reviewer who was not involved in the original consideration of your request and a written response will be provided within 20 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS East Staffordshire CCG, NHS North Staffordshire CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke on Trent CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

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<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1151/datasets-foi-guidance.pdf>

Yours sincerely



Sally Young
Director of Corporate Services, Governance and Communications

NHS Cannock Chase CCG
NHS East Staffordshire CCG
NHS North Staffordshire CCG
NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG
NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG
NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG

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