

Freedom of Information Request	FOI 23-090	2 nd March 2023
--------------------------------	------------	----------------------------

1. What is Aneurin Bevan University Health Board's policy regarding provision of gluten free food for patients with coeliac disease?

Any requirements for gluten free diet are made know to the ward caterers; the Synbiotix ordering system has filters that allow patients to select the Gluten free options only. There are also purple boxes/ separate storage compartments specifically for gluten free snacks and bread.

Similarly, for other food allergens which are made know to ward caterers the Symbiotic system has filters to enable only safe choices.

2. What processes and training are in place for all staff involved in the provision of food to ensure patients with special dietary needs are easily identified, and provided with the appropriate food and drink?

There is a training programme in place for all facilities staff involved in food handling to complete Allergy Awareness training or Allergen Management training depending on their role and responsibilities.

There is an Allergen SOP within the ABUHB Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) policy that is regularly reviewed.

3. How is allergen information shared with patients to help them make food choices? How does this take account of patients' varied capacity to advocate for themselves?

During morning rounds patients are asked if they have dietary requirements, a paper copy of the 'special diets' sheet is shared between nursing and facilities staff to order the appropriate meals. An electronic copy is also being trialled (in Synbiotix) on wards throughout the health board, aiming to move over electronically throughout all wards and sites.

Updated patient information leaflets are in development and these will be available at ward level and via the internet via QR code.

4. Will you commit to reviewing policies, training and systems for the hospitals in your area?

Yes, policies are in place and training provided for staff and are reviewed on a regular basis electronically. Additional training videos are also being rolled out on top of regular training.

5. Will you commit to displaying the catering guidance poster in food prep areas, canteens and on wards across the Trust?

Yes, ABUHB displays the necessary posters for compliance with Food Information Regulations. An example of one such poster can be seen below. Please also find attached the 14 Allergens poster.

