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| Freedom of Information Request | FOI 23-490 | 02 November 2023 |
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Your request

You requested the following:

1. To what extent are the British Society of Gastroenterology Inflammatory Bowel Disease colorectal cancer surveillance endoscopy recommendations been implemented in this Trust?

If they are being partially implemented, please outline which areas are currently being met.

2. What percentage of Inflammatory Bowel Disease patients are currently overdue their surveillance endoscopy based on the timelines set out in the British Society of Gastroenterology consensus guidelines on the management of inflammatory bowel disease in adults (2019)?

Please provide this information broken down by high risk, intermediate risk and lower risk as out in this same guidance.

3. What plans are in place to manage the Inflammatory Bowel Disease colorectal cancer colonoscopy surveillance backlog in light of the COVID-19 pandemic?

The full guidelines referred to in these questions can be found in Box 11 on page 72 at:

https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=261&d=pOCI5ai9U8d_7nY97sJX2UgwnPi0ZZ2_YwGO8nagfA&u=https%3a%2f%2fwww%2ebsg%2eorg%2euk%2fwp-content%2fuploads%2f2019%2f12%2fBSG-IBD-Guidelines-2019%2epdf

Our response

1. The British Society of Gastroenterology Inflammatory Bowel Disease colorectal cancer surveillance endoscopy recommendations have been implemented in full in this Health Board.
2. Patients on our waiting lists are assessed and categorised as 'routine', 'urgent', 'urgent suspected cancer' and 'repeat planned' for waiting list management and the patient's diagnosis is not recorded centrally. To comply with your request, we would need to review every patient record which we have established would take in excess of 18 hours to undertake and therefore exceeds the appropriate costs limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which is currently £450. This is not an exemption which requires us to consider the application of the public interest test.
3. The Royal Gwent Hospital (RGH) currently has 2 substantive endoscopy procedure rooms. Due to the backlog caused by the pandemic we have contracted an insourcing

team to provide additional capacity. The contract has been in place since October 2021 to help recover the backlog. We also run additional weekend lists for urgent patients.

A new endoscopy unit at RGH is currently under construction and is due to open in November 2023. This will provide 4 brand new endoscopy procedure rooms as well as the additional workforce, which is currently being reviewed with a view to extended to a 7-day working week.