

***Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000***

Thank you for your request for information which we received on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023. I am pleased to confirm the following.

**Does the trust currently have a Bronchiectasis pathway?**

No

**If no, why?**

This is a work in progress.

**Is there a plan to implement one?**

Yes

**And how so? IT WILL BE A MULTIPROFESSIONAL PATHWAY INVOLVING ACUTE MEDICINE/MICROBIOLOGY/RESPIRATORY MEDICINE/OPAT/PHYSIOTHERAPY**

**Will it be based on the NICE and British Thoracic Society Guidelines?**

It will be based on the BTS guidelines.

**If yes, please provide when the current Bronchiectasis pathway was implemented. Are they based on the NICE and British Thoracic Guidelines?**

NA

**Is physiotherapy a key part in your trusts acute Bronchiectasis management?**

Yes

**Since implementation, are more patients being referred to physiotherapy?**

NA

**Has there been an improvement in patient outcomes/management of bronchiectasis?**

NA

**Pre and post implementation, what are the referral statistics to physiotherapists?**

NA

**Patient's being admitted into hospital with acute exacerbation of bronchiectasis, are they being referred to physiotherapists on admission?**

Yes

**Average waiting time for referral to physiotherapists?**

Once a referral is received in physiotherapy the referral is read and triaged by a senior clinician and if the referral is accepted then the patient is sent a partial booking letter. This is a letter which is sent to the patient inviting them to contact the department to book into the group education session. The education session runs once per month and patients are invited to book onto the next available session. Once they have attended the education session they are seen by a senior physiotherapist to review airway clearance etc. If they cannot attend a session or are not suitable (those who are hard of hearing or neurodivergent who may not be suitable for a group) are invited for an assessment plus treatment with a senior clinician.

**How do you refer to a physiotherapist? Paper, digital, or verbal communication?**

Referrals come to physiotherapy from GP's, practice nurses, hospital consultants, community consultant clinics, ward therapists, advanced nurse practitioners. Referrals are made via letter from the referring clinician and are received into a therapies admin inbox (our current electronic patient record system does not accept electronic referrals). There is an expectation that the letter contains PMH and reason for referral.

**If there is a referral form to physiotherapy, what does this consist of? Is there a criteria for a patient (admitted with acute exacerbation of bronchiectasis) that they need to meet for a referral to physiotherapy? If so, what are the criteria?**

We do not have a referral form.

**What have been the goals of the trust since the implementation of the Bronchiectasis pathway? And has there been improvement? Are the goals being achieved?**

NA

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If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address above.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Co-ordinator  
For and on behalf of Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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