

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

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 15 April 2021.

I am pleased to confirm the following.

1. Within your NHS Trust could you confirm what 'follow up regime' you normally provide for newly diagnosed patients by Melanoma Stage (Ia-IIc) and the number of years (1 to 5) the follow up continues for, in line with your clinical protocols? To help with completion we have inserted a table below. Or please provide back in excel if easier.  
|Melanoma Stage at diagnosis| |No. follow up visits in 1st Year| |No. follow up visits in 2nd Year| |No. follow up visits in 3rd Year| |No. follow up visits in 4th Year| |No. follow up visits in 5th Year|

IA - Follow up only for a year, every three months (4 visits) for a year then discharged if no other problems.

Stage 1B and above shared between Stoke Mandeville Hospital or Oxford Hospital (Head and Neck melanomas) as offered Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy.

IB - Follow up for 5yrs, every three months for first 3yrs, then every 6monthly for the next 2yrs. Sometimes shared care between Stoke Mandeville Hospital and Milton Keynes University Hospital or Oxford Hospital and MKUH. Depending on the site of melanoma.

IIA - Same as above

IIB - Same as above depending on the thickness, offered to see the oncologist at oxford.

IIC - Same as above and offered to see the oncologist at Oxford for systemic treatments.

2. Could you please provide a copy of the latest service specification for your Melanoma skin cancer service at the Trust, which shows the care pathway that you provide? Normally found under 'Schedule 2' of the Standard contract in place, with your commissioner

All stage 1A treated and followed up locally at MKUH Stage 1B and above shared between Stoke Mandeville and oxford (Head and Neck) because of SLNB.

3. Could you please confirm if you use any 'send away dermatopathology services' within your NHS Trust? A send away or referral service is one where the pathology work is contracted out to a third-party laboratory.

No

**4. Could you please confirm for your Trust in 2018/19, the following numbers of newly diagnosed Melanoma skin cancer patients and the number of these who have received a subsequent Sentinel Lymph Node biopsy by Melanoma Stage?**

Cellular Pathology received a total of 61 specimens from patients diagnosed with malignant melanoma between 01/04/18 and 31/03/19.

As previously stated, we are unable to provide information regarding subsequent sentinel LN biopsy as these are performed at another trust.

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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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