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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Tracy Myhill**

gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser
caring for each other, working together, always improving

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 12th October 2020
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 20-I-016

01639 648363

FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk



Corporate Services
Headquarters
1 Talbot Gateway
Baglan
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Dear [REDACTED],

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 22nd September 2020. Your request sought information relating to prostate cancer.

1. Did you suspend your MRI before biopsy service for patients with suspected prostate cancer as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes

2. If yes, have you now resumed MRI before biopsy for patients with suspected prostate cancer?

Yes

3. Do you currently use a pre-MRI clinical triage for patients with suspected prostate cancer? By pre-MRI clinical triage, we mean a process, often Clinical Nurse Specialist led, that determines patient suitability for MRI before biopsy

Yes

It is mainly done by a consultant. Most patients are assessed in a virtual clinic but some are seen face to face.

4. Has your radiology department introduced any new MRI exclusion criteria for patients with suspected prostate cancer as a result of COVID-19?

No

5. If yes, do you plan to maintain any of these exclusion criteria once restrictions to limit patients' COVID-19 risk are lifted?



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

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Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

Not applicable

6. Did you stop conducting biopsies for patients with suspected prostate cancer as a result of COVID-19 infection risks?

Yes

7. If yes, have you resumed biopsy services for patients with suspected prostate cancer?

Yes

8. Do you offer transperineal biopsy under local anaesthetic?

No

9. Following an MRI scan for suspected prostate cancer, what criteria do you use to select patients for biopsy? Please include all that apply:

- ✓ Patients with a PI-RADSs or Likert score of 1 or greater - offer surveillance but discuss biopsy as well
- ✓ Patients with a PI-RADS or Likert score of 2 or greater – offer surveillance but discuss biopsy as well
- ✓ Patients with a PI-RADS or Likert score of 3 or greater – Biopsy or surveillance depending upon age and fitness
- ✓ Patients with a PI-RADS or Likert score of 3 or greater, but only if PI-RADS or Likert score 3 patients have other clinical indications (such as age, ethnicity, PSA density) that make them higher risk
- ✓ Patients with a PI-RADS or Likert score of 4 or greater Biopsy

10. Did you delay radiotherapy treatment for prostate cancer patients as a result of COVID-19?

Partially (please specify:)

Some patients were delayed on hormone therapy for a maximum of 6 months, whilst patients were offered outsourced referral to Rutherford Cancer Centre, if they wished.

11. If yes, have you cleared your backlog for prostate cancer radiotherapy treatment?

Yes

12. Did you delay radical prostatectomy for prostate cancer patients as a result of COVID-19?

Partially (please specify:)

For a period, we only operated on High Risk patients. Intermediate risk were kept on surveillance.

13. If yes, have you cleared your radical prostatectomy backlog?

Yes

14. To address your backlog did or are you using a protocol to risk stratify patients and prioritise patients with high-risk and locally advanced prostate cancer for treatment within 3 months?



Yes

15. Does your protocol apply to new patients with high-risk and locally advanced prostate cancer with the intention to radically treat them within 3 months of diagnosis?

Not applicable - we have not got a backlog. Patients are being treated as per pre-COVID service.

16. Do you have prostate cancer Personalised Stratified Follow Up (PSFU) protocols in place?

Yes

17. If Yes, do you have a digital remote monitoring system in place for follow up?

Yes (Please specify the name of the system used: e.g My Medical Record, Patient Knows Best)
Patient Knows Best

18. If no, do you plan to implement a digital remote monitoring system for follow up?

Not applicable

19. Which of the following criteria are part of your follow up protocols? (please mark all that apply:)

- ✓ Patients have access to a Support Worker who acts as their key worker for the duration of their follow up care.
- ✓ Patients have access to an online patient service that allows them to check test results, complete assessments, view patient information and message their clinical team.
- ✓ Patients do not need to attend routine appointments unless an issue arises.

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

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If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



P. a. wenger

Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

