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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Mark Hackett**

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: 24th June 2021
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-E-016

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✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 14th May 2021. Your request sought information relating to cellulitis.

You asked for information relating to the skin health services (cellulitis) that exist at Swansea Bay Health Board and the pathways for patients with Spina Bifida with skins conditions (i.e., being referred to, during and after treatment).

Please note that there is no difference in treatment for cellulitis for patients with or without Spina Bifida in SBUHB.

1. What do you offer / do in terms of Skin Care Services for cellulitis?

Please note that lower grade or chronic cases of cellulitis are dealt with by our Dermatology department, whilst acute cases tend to be treated within Medicine.

The usual management of cellulitis is with antibiotics.

Recalcitrant treatment is compression and long term low dose antibiotics for 12 months (PATCH study findings).

2. Are the podiatry services linked to the healthcare services provided?

No

3. How do you go about treating cellulitis of varying severity?

Dermatology - Treatment depends on the severity of the case, where the patient is seen and how unwell they are. All cellulitis is a risk factor for bacterial endocarditis so pulses would be taken and the heart would be listened



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to. A swab would be taken from the site. If pyrexia, blood cultures are done.

Medicine – A Sepsis bundle and escalation of care to critical care is made as required.

4. How do you go about treating cellulitis?

Please see question 3.

5. What are the outreach services like how can patients access them?

SBUHB does not have a specific outreach team for Dermatology/cellulitis. Outreach are part of the on call team for Medicine.

6. Rehab, (after surgery) criteria for accessing this?

You clarified on 9th June 2021 that you would like this information relating to patients whose primary presenting issue for surgery is cellulitis, and any post-surgery physiotherapy available to these patients afterwards.

I can confirm that SBUHB does not perform surgery on patients whose primary presenting issue is cellulitis.

7. Do they offer paediatrics or adult services or both?

Dermatology offer both.

Medicine offers services to patients aged 16 years old and over.

8. What are the referral pathways? – is self-referral possible?

For all cases of cellulitis, referrals would be made via the GP or a ward referral if an inpatient.

Cellulitis is not treated by one specialty. Many cases go to different areas dependent on individual patient circumstances.

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

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

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



Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

