



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

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 neu'r Saesneg. Atebir gohebiaeth Gymraeg yn y Gymraeg, ac ni fydd hyn yn arwain at oedi.
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English. Welsh language correspondence will be replied to in Welsh, and this will not lead to a delay.

Cais Rhyddid Gwybodaeth / Freedom of Information request **Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 23-E-024**

You asked:

- 1. Please could you provide any form of instruction/information that have been given to or agreed with gastroenterology consultants and relevant staff on the eligibility of patients for endoscopy when those patients have potential or existing oesophageal varices that require attention.**

We are following the society guidelines (BSG/BASL) for variceal screening/surveillance.

Patients who are diagnosed with Cirrhosis are considered for Variceal Screening/surveillance.

Age is not a contra-indication, but co-morbidities are taken into account in deciding if a particular patient is suitable/ will be able to tolerate an Upper GI endoscopy.

Once varices are diagnosed, patients already on treatment with beta-blockers (and not had previous bleeding from varices) do not need further endoscopies - as per the guidelines.

Include in addition in the last 48 months

- 2. Any form of instruction /information-that has changed the criteria for assessing a patient eligible for endoscopy for oesophageal varice treatment. Including if age is a factor considered by the Health Board?**
SBUHB have not issued any instructions specifically relating to varices.
- 3. Any instruction/information on how the Health Board categories those referrals it makes and what risk factors it considers? Including if age is a factor in de- prioritising a patients need for an urgent referral.**
SBUHB have not issued any instructions specifically relating to varices.



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

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

4. If the Health Board has issued any restrictions in terms of referrals for endoscopy for oesophageal varices.

SBUHB have not issued any restriction specifically relating to varices.

