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18 November 2014

Ref: FOI 5726 GLO 11M

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

Thank you for your request for information received on 12 November 2014, relating to orthopaedic triage.

I can confirm that Gloucestershire CCG does hold the requested information:

- **I write to ask you about referrals for patients with orthopaedic symptoms in the area covered by Gloucestershire CCG. Please treat the following points as FOI requests. My specific questions are:**

**1. Does the CCG have a triage process for patients with orthopaedic symptoms, or does the CCG allow unrestricted GP referrals?**

The CCG does not have a mandated triage process but triage does form part of other services which have thresholds before patients access Orthopaedic services.

**2. If the CCG does have a triage process, how is it organised?**

- **I understand that the typical ways to organise a triage service include:**
- **Triage being provided at a triage centre where patients are reviewed by physiotherapists, advanced physiotherapy practitioners, or GPwSIs, who are employed by the CCG.**
- **Triage being provided by the local NHS trust within the community.**
- **Triage being provided by an NHS or a private sector orthopaedic treatment centre.**
- **Triage being provided by a private sector contractor**

Triage is provided as part of Specialist Intermediate Tier Physiotherapy/Podiatry Services

- **Please could you give details of what method is used if the CCG has a triage process for patients with orthopaedic symptoms, whether it is one of the methods listed above or any other method.**
- **In addition to the above, can you also please answer the following:**
  - 1. How are patients given a choice of provider for orthopaedic surgery in the area the CCG covers?**

Patients have the option of any provider available on Choose & Book.

- 2. Does the CCG have any plans to tender orthopaedic triage services in the next year?**

No current plans.

You are advised that this information is provided in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is for your personal use. Any re-use of this information will be subject to the Re-Use of Public Sector Information Regulations (1 July 2005) and authorisation from the CCG will be required. In the event of any re-use, the information must be reproduced accurately and not used in a misleading manner.

If you are not satisfied with the way in which we have dealt with your request for information, then in accordance with the Act you may ask us to conduct a review of our decision. In which case you should contact me at the above address.

If you remain unhappy with the decision after review you should contact:-

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely



Alan Bonfield  
Head of IG & FoI  
Central Southern CSU  
**On behalf of Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group**

