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11 November 2014

Ref: FOI 5462 GLO 11M

Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information received on 10 October 2014, relating to cholesterol data.

I am pleased to confirm that Gloucestershire CCG does hold the following information:

1. How many GP practices are there within in your Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)?

Gloucestershire CCG are exempting this question under Section 21 Freedom of Information Act 2000 as it is reasonably accessible by other means. This is an absolute exemption.

http://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/freedom_of_information/guide/~media/documents/library/Freedom_of_Information/Detailed_specialist_guides/information-reasonably-accessible-to-the-applicant-by-other-means-sec21.pdf

For convenience, however, I have provided you with a link to their web site which will provide you with this information.

<http://www.gloucestershireccg.nhs.uk/your-services/gps-doctors/>

2. Following the withdrawal of cholesterol indicators CHD003, PAD003, STIA004, STIA005, MH004 from the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) earlier this year, are the data for these indicators still being collected by GP practices in your CCG?

This information is not held as it is not required by any current primary care clinical audits, conducted through our Primary Care Clinical Audit Group (PCCAG)

a. If so, can you provide an estimate of the proportion of practices still collecting the data?

This information is not held by Gloucestershire CCG

b. If not, what systems, if any, are in place to extract these data?

The NHS Health Checks project is looking for cholesterol measurements on patients that have had a health check (ie. Patients between 40-74 yr olds without existing disease and not currently on a statin)

3. Please provide details of any guidance your CCG has provided practices in your area about continuing to record and report cholesterol data following the withdrawal of QOF indicators

None given.

4. How many patients in your CCG have been identified as having elevated cholesterol levels? Please provide figures for the latest available twelve month period for those with:
a. higher total cholesterol than 4 mmol/L
b. higher total cholesterol than 7 mmol/L

we only have data for cholesterol recorded at the time of the health check. Nothing related to levels to understand degree of elevation.

5. Through current data extraction agreements, are you able to identify the number of patients who were referred for further support/care services following identification of elevated cholesterol levels during the Health Check?

This data was not requested from GP Practices by Public Health within the clinical audit.

We only extract cholesterol data if included within the criteria of our clinical audits. Currently these include – Diabetes (to identify the NICE recommended 9 Care Processes), CKD (specifically patients at stages 3b, 4 and 5) but these are currently annual audits.

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 & Fol
Central Southern CSU
On behalf of Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group