

## **Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB\_301\_21**

### **You asked:**

Can you please provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This query relates to menopause services.

- 1. Are you, as the local Health Board, responsible for commissioning all services related to diagnosis and treatment of menopause in your area? If not, then can you please provide details of who does commission menopause services in your area?**

Yes, the University Health Board is responsible for commissioning all services related to diagnosis and treatment of menopause in the area.

- 2. What services for diagnosis and treatment of menopause are available in your area? This could include specialist menopause primary health care providers within GP surgeries or in local hospitals or specialist clinics.**

There are limited specialist services within primary care; GPs are asked to provide ongoing treatment, if patients have been investigated by specialist services.

Specialist follow-up appointments within Consultant services, are only for complex cases.

There is a specialist menopause service (Consultant Led), at Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board within Merthyr, Cynon, Pontypridd and Rhondda.

The specialist menopause service in Merthyr Cynon accept new Menopause referrals from Primary and Secondary care as well as direct referrals from Occupational Health (OH). The OH referral pathway is a recent addition to the service.

The specialist menopause service is able to offer individualised Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) management, to include implants both oestrogen and testosterone and intrauterine systems (IUS) e.g. Mirena.

Within the Bridgend Locality the Menopause service is incorporated as part of the general gynaecology service.

The menopause service across the Health Board is currently backed by the diagnostic Ultrasound services available and the hysteroscopy service.

- 3. Is there a waiting list for specialist menopause services in your area and if so, how long for?**

Yes there is a waiting list at present at Merthyr and Cynon. We do not hold a specific menopause waiting list at Bridgend, all menopause referrals are prioritised for review within a General Gynaecology clinic.

To March 2020 all new patients were seen within the 26 week Welsh Government target however, Covid has severely impacted on the ability to retain this target and the General Gynaecology new patient wait is now approximately 70 weeks. All patients are appointed as clinically prioritised.

During Covid we have been running telephone clinics for our follow up patients.

**4. Have any services related to diagnosis and treatment of menopause been closed in your area? If yes, can you provide details of what that service was and when it closed please?**

No.

**5. Does the Health Board have plans to open any new menopause services? If yes please provide details.**

The Health Board plan is to expand specialist service provisions. Reviewing the service provision within Cwm Taf Morgannwg, in order to have a consistent Menopause/HRT service across the board.

We also have plans to develop the role of the Menopause Nurse Specialist