



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_403_24

You asked:

Please find our freedom of information request attached, we look forward to hearing from you within the timescales of the FOI Act.

Asthma

1. What services does your health board provide for people with severe or suspected severe asthma?

The following services are provided within Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board:

- Suspected severe asthma: after referral from primary care – confirmation of diagnosis with lung function (usual spirometry with access to bronchial provocation challenge if required).
- Access to specialist CNS review.
- Access to consultant review.
- Biological treatment (if appropriate).
- Links with Homecare services for biological therapies to be continued at home.

2. How often do those services attend meetings with other similar services in other health boards?

There are Monthly WeDAG (Welsh Difficult Asthma Group) meetings, primarily to discuss commencing biological therapy, also occasionally for challenging asthma cases where biological treatment is not felt to be of benefit.

3. How many patients in your health board area are diagnosed with either severe or uncontrolled asthma?

We do not hold this information. As the initial diagnosis of a patient can occur at differing levels: GP, outpatient consultation, the result of a diagnostic test, inpatient/daycase admission, for example and we only record diagnoses via clinical coding at the inpatient stage we are unable to confirm the number of patients diagnosed with either severe or uncontrolled asthma.

However, in order to comply with our obligation set out in section 16, to provide help and assistance, we can confirm that there are currently 132 patients under biologics treatment and monitoring in secondary care. This figure does not include any patients with severe asthma that may be under primary care, or those not on biologics treatment.

Winter pressures

1. What provisions is your health board making to ensure it does not receive additional unnecessary respiratory admissions during the Winter season?

The winter planning process undertakes a robust planning process that looks at limiting respiratory admissions. Whilst winter planning for 24/25 is yet to be undertaken previous schemes have included bolstering oxygen at home services to stop patients attending hospital.