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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_111_25

You asked:

I am writing with requests for the following information regarding metastatic breast cancer services in Wales under the **Freedom of Information Act 2000**. If certain answers cannot be provided, please still provide the information which can be shared.

By a diagnosis of metastatic breast cancer, I mean breast cancer that has spread to other parts of the body, such as the bones, lungs, liver or brain. Metastatic breast cancer is also referred to as 'secondary' or 'advanced' or 'stage 4' breast cancer.

Patients

1. How many patients in your Health Board with a diagnosis of metastatic breast cancer are currently being treated?

There are currently 284 patients recorded that are under treatment/care with secondary breast cancer. This information was provided by the Secondary Breast Specialist Nurse.

2. Are Metastatic breast patients discussed at MDT?

Yes, patients are discussed at MDT when requested by the patient's clinician.

3. How does Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB breast cancer MDT record and track metastatic breast cancer on the Welsh Clinical Portal and the Welsh Patient Administration System? If precise numbers are unavailable, what steps have been taken to improve data collection on metastatic breast cancer patients?

Currently we would capture a new diagnosis of metastatic breast cancer, through the registration / staging on a data set form via Welsh Clinical Portal. In regards to patients with recurrent / secondary disease, we are looking to implement a directive set by the Wales Cancer Network going forward.

Nurses

1. How many dedicated metastatic breast cancer nurses are currently in post at Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB?

There is one dedicated metastatic breast cancer nurses are currently in post at Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB from 2023.

2. Do all patients at Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB with metastatic breast cancer have access to a dedicated Metastatic CNS with the appropriate skills, knowledge and experience of metastatic breast cancer?

All patients at Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB have access to a dedicated Metastatic CNS.

3. Do all Metastatic patients receive a Holistic Needs assessment?

Yes, all Metastatic patients receive a Holistic Needs assessment.

4. How are Metastatic patients supported in the HB?

Metastatic patients are supported by a dedicated CNS.

Treatment Summaries and Red Flags

1. Does Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB inform all primary breast cancer patients at end of treatment of the red flag symptoms to be aware of?

Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB will be implementing a system to make primary breast cancer patients aware of red flag symptoms in March 2025.

2. What red flag infographic do you use?

The red flag infographic used is METUP UK.

3. How many patients with primary breast cancer in the past year received treatment summaries?

Approximately 50% of patients with primary breast cancer have received treatment summaries in the past year.

4. Does Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB have a formal policy in place to ensure all metastatic breast cancer patients receive treatment summaries?

Currently Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB does not have a formal policy in place to ensure all metastatic breast cancer patients receive treatment summaries but it is planned.

5. What is the formal system to ensure GPs are aware of the red flags for their patients who have had breast cancer?

The formal system to ensure GPs are aware of the red flags for their patients who have had breast cancer. A copy of the treatment summary & Red flags to be sent to GPs for all patients as of March 2025.