



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_274_25

You asked:

- 1. I would be grateful if you could send the Health Board’s most recent planning document(s) for the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer’s Disease including implementation of lumbar punctures (CSF) and Blood-based Biomarker testing. Please include planning documents that cover the entire Health Board and specific department plans, such as neurology, psychiatry, care of the elderly, pathology or memory clinic teams.**

Please note: Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board commission Neurological Services from Cardiff & Vale (C&V) and Swansea Bay (SB) University Health Boards (UHB).

Therefore, for information relating Neurology you will need to contact the relevant Health Boards directly. Contact details have been provided below: Cardiff and Vale University Health Board –

CAV.FOI.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

Swansea Bay University Health Board - FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

Our relevant Mental Health Services and Pathology Department have provided the information for this response.

We have been unable to identify or are aware of any recent planning documents for the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer’s Disease including implementation of lumbar punctures (CSF) and Blood-based Biomarker testing.

- 2. How many patients were diagnosed with Alzheimer’s Disease (ICD-10 codes = G30, G30.1, G30.8, G30.9, F00, F00.1, F00.2 or F00.9) in your Health Board in the last 12-month period for which data are available?**

	Number of patients
Total Alzheimer’ Disease	158

- 3. How many patients were diagnosed with Mild Cognitive Impairment and / or Mild Dementia due to Alzheimer’s Disease (ICD-10 codes = G31.84, G30.1, or MMSE scores = 21 to 24) in your Health Board in the last 12-month period for which data are available?**

	Number of patients
Mild cognitive impairment (<i>ICD-10 = G31.84</i>)	178
Early onset Alzheimer's Disease (<i>ICD-10 = G30.1</i>)	29
Mild cognitive impairment (<i>Mini-mental State Examination MMSE = 21 to 24</i>)	*See below
Mild cognitive impairment (<i>other sources of definition</i>)	*See below

*We can confirm that the Health Board does not centrally record this information. The information you require would be recorded within an individual patient's health record as part of their ongoing care. To provide you with this information, would require a manual trawl and significantly exceed the 18 hours time and £450 cost limit set out within Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

4. Where, if at all, does the Health Board carry out lumbar punctures (cerebrospinal fluid) for diagnosing patients with Alzheimer's Disease?

	Yes / No
Lumbar punctures carried out within the Health Board itself	No
Lumbar punctures referred elsewhere and carried out external to the Health Board	Yes
Health Board does not carry out lumbar punctures to diagnose Alzheimer's Disease	As above

5. Please provide a list of the full names of other Health Boards/Trusts or other organisations to which the Health Board refers patients for lumbar punctures in the diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease.

Full name of organisation(s)
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Swansea Bay University Health Board

6. What is the average waiting time for a patient to get an appointment for a lumbar puncture to test for a diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease?

	Number
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Average waiting time (weeks)	We do not hold this information.
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Please see response to Q5. You may wish to contact the relevant Health Boards for this information. Contact details have been provided below:
 Cardiff and Vale University Health Board – CAV_FOI.Requests@wales.nhs.uk
 Swansea Bay University Health Board - FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

7. How many lumbar punctures to test for Alzheimer’s Disease took place in the last 3-month period for which data are available?

	Number of procedures
Number of lumbar punctures	*See below

*We can confirm that the Health Board does not centrally record this information. The information you require would be recorded within an individual patient’s health record as part of their ongoing care. To provide you with this information, would require a manual trawl and significantly exceed the 18 hours time and £450 cost limit set out within Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

8. How many Blood-based Biomarker (BBBM) tests from Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) to test for Alzheimer’s Disease were conducted in the last 3-month period for which data are available?

	Number of tests
Number of Blood-based Biomarker tests (CSF)	*See below

*We can confirm that the Health Board does not centrally record this information. The information you require would be recorded within an individual patient’s health record as part of their ongoing care. To provide you with this information, would require a manual trawl and significantly exceed the 18 hours time and £450 cost limit set out within Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

9. Where, if at all, does the Health Board carry out Blood-based Biomarker (BBBM) tests from Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) for diagnosing patients with Alzheimer’s Disease?

	Yes / No
Pathology laboratory within the Health Board	No
Pathology laboratory external to the Health Board	Yes
Health Board does not test for BBBMs to diagnose Alzheimer’s Disease	As above

10. Please provide a list of the full names of other Health Boards/Trusts or other organisations, to which the Health Board refers Blood-based Biomarker tests from cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) for pathology in the diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease.

Full name of Health Board or organisation(s)
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Swansea Bay University Health Board

11. What is the average waiting time for pathology results to come back from Blood-based Biomarker tests?

	Days
Average waiting time (days)	Please see response to Q6.

12. To what extent are there plans for service improvement of diagnosing Alzheimer's Disease?

	Yes / No
Implementation of plans has started	No
A plan exists and implementation has not started	No
A plan is being developed	No
There is no plan	Yes
Other – please state	N/A

13. Are the plans for service improvement of diagnosing Alzheimer's Disease related to:

	Yes / No
Cognitive assessment services	No
Biomarker services	No
None / neither	No

14. Which of the following services does the Health Board have in place in preparation for increased service delivery for Alzheimer's Disease?

	Related to administration of lumbar punctures Yes / No	Related to Blood-based Biomarker testing Yes / No
Budget	No	No
People	No	No
Training	No	No
Clinic space / capacity	No	No
Governance arrangements	No	No