



GIG
CYMRU
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WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_129_26

You asked:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information (FoI) Act 2000. This FoI request is part of a research study conducted by the University of Manchester. Our study aims to investigate the availability of liaison psychiatry services for patients presenting with a condition called Functional Neurological Disorder (FND).

This current FoI request is to **Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board**. We understand that there are liaison psychiatry teams at the sites detailed below. These questions would be best answered **by the liaison psychiatry department themselves** as there may be differences in practice between teams.

- Mental Health Liaison team, Royal Glamorgan Hospital
- Mental Health Liaison team, Merthyr and Cynon

If there are any liaison psychiatry teams we have missed out, please include in your response.

FoI questions:

1. Does the liaison psychiatry service accept referrals for patients diagnosed with suspected or confirmed Functional Neurological Disorder (FND)?
 - a. No
 - b. Yes
2. Are there formal exclusion criteria that would prevent patients with FND from being assessed by liaison psychiatry?
 - a. No
 - b. Yes
 - i. What are the criteria?
3. Are there inclusion criteria within FND?
 - a. No
 - b. Yes
 - i. What are the criteria?
4. Where are patients with FND assessed?
 - a. Inpatient wards
 - b. Emergency departments
 - c. Outpatient settings
 - d. A mixture, please detail:
 - e. Not assessed at all
5. Is there a standardised assessment tool you use for patients with suspected or confirmed FND?
 - a. No
 - b. Yes

6. Do you have a policy, guideline or dedicated pathway for patients with suspected or confirmed FND?
 - a. No
 - b. Yes
7. Between January 2024-December 2025, how many patients with a suspected or confirmed FND were referred to liaison psychiatry? *
 - a.
 - b. Data not held
8. Between January 2024-December 2025, how many patients with a suspected or confirmed FND were accepted by liaison psychiatry? *
 - a.
 - b. Data not held
9. If FND patients are not seen by the liaison psychiatry team, are they referred to other services for assessment of their mental health?
10. Does the liaison psychiatry unit provide training to its staff on FND? If yes, please specify.
 - a. No
 - b. Yes
 - i. Please specify:
11. Is your liaison psychiatry service commissioned to see patients with FND?

** Alternative codes for FND: psychogenic, conversion, stress-induced, functional, pseudoseizure, dissociative, non-organic, psychosomatic, hysterical, psychological cause.*

Our response:

1. Does the liaison psychiatry service accept referrals for patients diagnosed with suspected or confirmed Functional Neurological Disorder (FND)?

Answer: Yes

2. Are there formal exclusion criteria that would prevent patients with FND from being assessed by liaison psychiatry?

Answer: The Mental Health Liaison Team would ensure that a physical review is completed by our general colleagues to exclude any underlying physical health concerns prior to their assessment.

3. Are there inclusion criteria within FND?

Answer: No

4. Where are patients with FND assessed?

Answer: A mixture. Usually inpatient wards, very rarely in A&E

5. Is there a standardised assessment tool you use for patients with suspected or confirmed FND?

Answer: There is no assessment tool being used.

6. Do you have a policy, guideline or dedicated pathway for patients with suspected or confirmed FND?

Answer: No

7. Between January 2024-December 2025, how many patients with a suspected or confirmed FND were referred to liaison psychiatry? *

We can confirm that the Health Board does not centrally record this information. As such, we would not be able to provide a full Health Board wide picture. 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. Between January 2024-December 2025, how many patients with a suspected or confirmed FND were accepted by liaison psychiatry? *

We can confirm that the Health Board does not centrally record this information. As such, we would not be able to provide a full Health Board wide picture. 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. If FND patients are not seen by the liaison psychiatry team, are they referred to other services for assessment of their mental health?

Where clinically appropriate, patients may be referred to other services for assessment following a liaison psychiatry review. Referrals are not usually made without the patient being assessed by the Mental Health Liaison Team first.

12. Does the liaison psychiatry unit provide training to its staff on FND? If yes, please specify.

Answer: No

10. Is your liaison psychiatry service commissioned to see patients with FND?

FND falls within the scope of our usual commissioned liaison psychiatry work.

** Alternative codes for FND: psychogenic, conversion, stress-induced, functional, pseudoseizure, dissociative, non-organic, psychosomatic, hysterical, psychological cause.*