

Please contact: Access to Information
Team
Email: MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net
Direct tel: 01782 916875

12 April 2024

Dear

Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
Ref no: FOI-3921-LSC

Thank you for your request dated 13 March 2024.

We can confirm that the ICB does hold the information you requested.

Please find our response to your questions below:

1. The total number of ophthalmology referrals processed by the Preston-based Referral Management Centre for the most recent complete calendar year.

Fylde Coast Single Point of Access (SPA) referral service - January 2023 – December 2024

Total number of all Ophthalmology clinic types = 13126

Broken down into:

Total number of referrals into the Tier 2 Community, Health and Eyecare (CHEC) ophthalmology service = 9119

Total number of cataract referral (choice offered) = 4021

2. The criteria shared with patients to make informed choices regarding their provider of choice

Referral Management Centre (RMC) staff provide patients with choice of provider, information on the soonest available indicative appointment and indicative treatment time where available via the eRs system.

3. The mechanisms through which patients are offered a choice of ophthalmology providers, including details on whether this is completed via phone or email.

Fylde Coast SPA service only offer patient choice for Ophthalmology - Cataract referrals. The ICB commissioned pathway for all other clinic types is through the Tier 2 Ophthalmology service provided by CHEC.

- Copies of any standard operating procedures (SOPs) that the Referral Management Centre is bound by in the processing and management of ophthalmology referrals.

Please refer to the attached documents.

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- The number of ophthalmology referrals distributed to the systems' commissioned providers broken down by ophthalmic sub-specialism, including a breakdown of the distribution among different providers.

Fylde Coast SPA referrals only.

Jan – Dec 2023:

Cataract referrals (choice offered)

Count of Provider	Column Labels	Community Health and Eyecare - Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre	Community Health and Eyecare - Fulwood	Fulwood Hall Hospital	Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	Manchester Royal Eye Hospital	Provider Unknown	Spa Medica - Blackpool	Spa Medica - Kendal	Spa Medica - Preston	University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust	Westmorland General Hospital	Grand Total	
Cataract		214	379	4	6	14	2	3298	44	2	50	6	2	4021
Grand Total		214	379	4	6	14	2	3298	44	2	50	6	2	4021

Ophthalmology all clinic type except cataract referrals Tier 2 (CHEC).

80 referrals direct to Secondary care/provider unknown referrals where either CHEC have referred on/Choice made in GP practice/Optomtrist/or patient Refusal to be treated at CHEC.

Month	(Multiple Items)
Specialty	Ophthalmology (Multiple Items)
Outcome	(Multiple Items)

Count of Provider	Column Labels	Community Health and Eyecare - Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre	Community Health and Eyecare - Fulwood	Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	Manchester Royal Eye Hospital	Provider Unknown	Spa Medica - Blackpool	Spa Medica - Preston	Grand Total
Cornea			324			1			325
Diabetic Medical Retina			172			1			173
External Eye Disease		1	273						274
Glaucoma		4	1925		1		7		1937
Laser (YAG capsulotomy)			2026		1		8	9	2057
Low Vision		1	57						58
Neuro-Ophthalmology		1	330						331
Oculoplastics/Orbits/Lacrimal		1	410			1	3		415
Ophthal - Not Otherwise Specified		5	2026			1	1	8	2041
Ophthal - Strabismus / Ocular Motility			5				1		6
Orthoptics			239				1		240
Other Medical Retina		8	804			1	1		814
Squint / Ocular Motility		2	1						3
Vitreoretinal			431						431
Grand Total		23	9023	2	5	1	29	9	9105

Right of Appeal

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are dissatisfied with the response, you are entitled to request an internal review which should be formally requested in writing and must be within 40 working days from the date this response was issued.

To request an internal review

You can request this by contacting the FOI team by email at MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net or by post to Leyland House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TR, specifying why you require a review.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the CCGs FOI complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Professor Craig Harris – Chief Operating Officer

**On behalf of Kevin Lavery
ICB Chief Executive**