

Reference Number: FOI202122537
From: Private Individual
Date: 21 March 2022
Subject: Organisation's use of Patient Initiated Follow-Up (PIFU),

Q1 Please complete the below table, providing figures in relation to the number of patients waiting to start consultant-led Referral to Treatment (RTT), outpatients and Patient Initiated Follow-up (PIFU), which gives patients and their carers the flexibility to arrange their follow-up appointments as and when they need them.

A1

As at February 2022	Total Number of Patients
Total number of RTT patients waiting to start treatment	3,829
Total number of outpatients (Attended in February 2022)	21,202
Of those outpatients, how many are eligible to go on a PIFU pathway	Information not held - we are unable to provide an exact figure for this question. The decision to go onto a PIFU pathway is a joint decision between patient and doctor based on many diseases, social and clinical factors. Therefore, a PIFU eligibility rate will vary between speciality and clinician on a clinic by clinic basis.
Of those eligible, how many have been offered to go on a PIFU pathway	Information not held - we are unable to provide an exact figure for this question. The decision to go onto a PIFU pathway is a joint decision between patient and doctor based on many diseases, social and clinical factors. Therefore, a PIFU eligibility rate will vary between speciality and clinician on a clinic by clinic basis.
Of those offered, how many are currently placed on a PIFU pathway	Information not held - we are unable to provide an exact figure for this question. The decision to go onto a PIFU pathway is a joint decision between patient and doctor based on many diseases, social and clinical factors. Therefore, a PIFU eligibility rate will vary between speciality and clinician on a clinic by clinic basis.

Q2 Are all outpatients included in the RTT patient numbers? Yes/no

A2 No

Q3 Does your organisation currently have technology in place to accommodate PIFU pathways? For example, a patient engagement tool for booking PIFU appointments etc.

- Who is the supplier of the system?
- Please provide further detail on how the technology supports PIFU

A3 Not at present, but the Trust is looking at using patient portal via Health Care Comms

- Health Care Comms
- Patients who have been offered PIFU, are able to access the service via the portal for advice or appointment, if needed

Q4 Does your organisation have a clinical task management tool to support PIFU which aids escalation and intervention for patients that could be lost to follow-up or their circumstances have changed

- Who is the supplier of the system?
- Please provide further detail on how the technology supports PIFU
- What job role is responsible for making purchasing decisions around task management software at your organisations? E.g. Chief Operating Officer, Chief Information Officer

A4

- No, we use Business Intelligence reports to monitor and track patients on PIFU
- PIFU patients are tracked and managed through the Meditech EPR system same process for all patients at Alder Hey.
- Business Cases are signed off by a panel of staff at Investment Review Group – not one individual job role.

Q5 Does your organisation have an employee or team whose role is involved in administering/co-ordinating PIFU? If yes, please state the number of FTEs involved in PIFU

A5 This is picked up as part of a clinic reception role (WTE) and also the service pathway co-ordinator role for those specialities currently rolled out to PIFU, and also the relevant service pathway co-ordinators.

Q6 Please complete the table for each of the specialties listed:

A6 Please note, all services below are all Paediatrics:

Specialty	How many days a month were outpatient clinics run in February 2022?	What specialties are PIFU currently implemented in? (tick for yes)
Mental Health	24	
Cardiology	21	
Dermatology	22	Due to go live
Diabetes	20	
Endocrinology	21	
Gastroenterology	21	
Geriatric Medicine	n/a	
Gynaecology	5	√
Hepatology	n/a	

Neurology	23	
Oncology	21	
Ophthalmology	24	
Palliative medicine	5	
Paediatrics services (General Paediatrics)	21	
Physiotherapy	20	
Rehabilitation (Occupational Therapy)	19	
Renal medicine (Nephrology)	19	
Respiratory	20	
Rheumatology	18	√
Colorectal surgery	n/a	
Breast Surgery Service	n/a	
Ear, Nose and Throat	23	
General Surgery (Paediatric Surgery)	18	
Orthopaedics and Trauma	20	
Orthoptics	n/a	
Pain management	4	
Plastic surgery	27	√
Thoracic medicine	n/a	
Urology	20	
Vascular surgery	n/a	
Audiology Service	20	
Other		

Q7 How is your organisation measuring the impact of PIFU in these specialties? e.g. size of waiting list, number of weeks patients are waiting for treatment, number of outpatient attendances

A7 Via Business Intelligence reports

Q8 Has the implementation of PIFU reduced the operating hours of outpatient clinics? if so, by what percentage since implementation

A8 No