

**Reference Number:** FOIAH2324/398  
**From:** Private Individual  
**Date:** 23 October 2023  
**Subject:** Treatment and diagnostic criteria changes for PANDAS and PANS

In 2022 I sent you a FOI request asking how you treated conditions or probable or suspected conditions listed as i-iii) below?

i) PANDAS (Paediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections) ii) PANS (Paediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome) iii) immune mediated neuro behaviour conditions.

Following this request there has been a press release in February 2023, a copy is attached, it can also be found via the BPNA website (<https://bpna.org.uk/?page=pans-pandas>.)

Following this update from the working group. Please could you provide me with the following:

- Q1 Tell me whether the Trust/ Hospitals treatment and diagnostic criteria has changed as a result of the working group statement. If it has, please can you send me the copies of the new policy/ procedure for treatment and diagnostic pathway.
- A1 [Patients with acute neuropsychiatric symptoms are managed as individuals at the Trust and in conjunction with appropriate liaison psychiatry, community and education services. This has not changed since February 2023.](#)
- Q2 a. Please could you also provide for each condition or probable/ suspected condition i)-iii) above the number of paediatric patients presenting with these conditions for each year for the past 1 year?  
b. how many patients were referred to another service outside of the trust.
- A2 [Information not held – the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data.](#)
- Q3 Please could you provide me with any minutes of meetings which decided how patients are treated following the British Paediatric Neurology Association update on the working group in February 2023 and who made the decision to implement any changes.
- A3 [Information not held - there have been no specific meetings at the Trust related to the update released in February 2023. All children with acute neuropsychiatric symptoms are managed by a variety of teams and complex cases will be discussed in multidisciplinary teams](#)
- Q4 a. Whether the Trust/ Hospital has sought commissioning to treat this cohort of patients  
b. who did it approach e.g ICB or NHSE

c. whether this was approved or rejected along with the reasons why or timescales for implementation if relevant.

A4 Information not held – no commissioning was sought to treat patients for PANS/PANDAS.