

Reference Number: FOIAH2425/386
From: Private Individual
Date: 15 October 2024
Subject: Waitlist Validation and Data Linkage

Q1 How is waitlist validation carried out in your Trusts? Please select one of the following options: Manually / Semi-automated / Automated.
a. If your response was semi-automated or automated, which tools do you use? Please specify the types of tools or software used.

A1 Both manually and semi-automated
a) The semi-automated approach is text messaging to patients

Q2 How many FTEs currently work on waitlist validation and what band are they? Please specify the number per band.

A2 4.0 FTE Band 3

Q3 How has your FTE count working on waitlist validation increased in the past 2-3 years? Please provide an estimate if you do not have the exact number.

A3 No increases in the past 2-3 years.

Q4 In the past 12 months, approximately how long has the waitlist validation process taken? Please provide an estimate if you do not have the exact number.

A4 Information not held; waitlist validation process is not one piece of work but is a daily process for the team, so unable to quantify this.

Q5 What data quality issues have been identified the most frequently as part of the waitlist validation process? Please select those that apply from the list below:

- a. Decision to admit but no waiting list entry
- b. Missing waiting list or pathway information (e.g. due date, intended procedure)
- c. Patients on an admitted waiting list without an active RTT (Referral to Treatment Pathway) clock
- d. Past TCI (To Come In) dates
- e. Potential duplicates
- f. Other - please specify

A5 Other - incorrect RTT codes being selected by clinicians

Q6 What are your current approaches to linking data? Please select one of the following options: Manually or semi-automated / Automated

A6 Semi-automated

- Q7 What is the proportion of data linkage that is manual and automated? Please provide an estimate if you do not have the exact number.
- a. If automated, what tools are used? Please provide the name of the tools.
 - b. If manual, what tools are used e.g. R, data bricks? Please provide the name of the tools.

A7 All semi-automated, as per A6.

- a) Information not held; data linkage is semi-automated. Tools that are used are SQL Server, Power Apps, Power Bi and Excel
- b) Information not held, data linkage is semi-automated.

Q8 Currently, is the data linking process cumbersome? Please select one option: Yes/No

A8 Having considered your question we do not deem that the questions meet the criteria for a valid request for information under the FOIA, as they are asking for perspective and opinion rather than recorded data or information held by the Trust i.e., it do not 'describe the information being requested'

Q9 Does it take away from people's everyday role? Please select one option: Yes/No

A9 No