

## Title Ophthalmology Services

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Reference Number: RDF2325-24

Date of Response: 12/03/24

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

### *WET-AMD INJECTIONS:*

*1. What is the maximum number of wet-AMD injections you can facilitate in a week?*

*Answer: 300 slots per week for intra vitreal injections.*

*2. Do you run out-of-hours lists to keep up with demand for wet-AMD injections?*

*Answer: Yes, if the wait time for intra vitreal treatment will exceed 2 weeks*

*a. If you are running additional lists, how are these lists being accommodated.*

*Answer: By the macular practitioner team on Saturdays or additional lists during the week*

*b. If you are running additional lists, are you utilising any alternative clinical space?*

*Occasionally spare theatre space during the week and a 3<sup>rd</sup> procedure room in the Eastern service main Wonford unit of the RDHU Trust*

*3. What is the current waiting time for patients to secure an appointment for Wet-AMD injections?*

*Answer: 2 weeks.*

*a. What was the wait time at the same point in time in 2023?*

*Answer: The average wait time was 4 weeks.*

*4. How many patients are currently waiting for an appointment at a wet-AMD clinic?*

*Answer: To clarify, there are 990 patients awaiting treatment. Please note, none of these are overdue.*

*a. What was the wait time at the same point in time in 2023?*

*Answer: 807.*

*5. Do you have a contingency plan to increase capacity should this be required?*

*Answer: yes, 2 training practitioner have been recently employed to start at the end of April 2024 and a 3<sup>rd</sup> procedure has been put in place to allow the service to grow with expected increased demand over the next 12 months*

*a. B) If so, what is your contingency plan for wet-AMD injections? Answer: to utilize a 3<sup>rd</sup> procedure room during normal working hours Monday to Friday.*

## GENERAL CAPACITY:

*6. Are you outsourcing any ophthalmology clinical work to external parties or utilising insourcing partners? If so, what?* Answer: No

*7. What condition takes up the majority of your clinical slots?* Answer: WET AMD.

*8. Would you consider a mobile unit as an option to expand services and capacity?*  
Answer: Not currently required as we have identified a permanent additional space within the main Eastern Wonford unit of the RDUH and would be able to expand services at a community hospital.

*9. What is the name and contact details of the Ophthalmology Service Lead.*

The disclosure of staff names and details would breach the first data protection principle and fail to meet any of the relevant conditions set out in Schedule 2 of the Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018. The first principle in the DPA requires that disclosure must be fair and lawful, and personal data shall not be processed unless at least one of the conditions in Schedule 2 is satisfied. The staff concerned would not have expected their names to be disclosed in the public domain and so disclosure would not be 'fair' in the manner contemplated by the DPA.

Furthermore, disclosure would not satisfy any of the conditions for data processing set out in Schedule 2 of the DPA. In particular, we do not consider that there is a legitimate interest in disclosure in this case. There is no public interest in making information about our staff available in this way contrary to what would have been their legitimate expectation at the time the information was gathered.

Where contact details are given for Trust staff in this response, notice is hereby given, under Section 11 of the Data Protection Act 2018, on behalf of the individual or individuals that this personal information may not be used for the purposes of direct marketing.

To assist under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act, please see the following available on the Trust Website:

### **Northern services**

Main switchboard on 01271 322577

### **Eastern services**

We can be contacted via the main hospital switchboard on 01392 411611.

[NHS Royal Devon | Optometry](#)