

PANDAS - PANS

Reference Number: RDF1985-23

Date of Response: 22/11/23

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

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Under the Freedom of Information Act please could you provide the following information?

In 2022 you processed 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.*

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:

- 1) Tell me whether the Trust/ Hospitals treatment and diagnostic criteria has changed as a result of the working group statement.*

Answer: No, the Trust would refer to the specialist Centre in Bristol.

- a. If it has, please can you send me the copies of the new policy/ procedure for treatment and diagnostic pathway.*

Answer: Not applicable.

- 2) 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?*

Answer: Nil.

- a. And how many patients were referred to another service outside of the trust.*

Answer: Not applicable.

- 3) *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.*

Answer: No meeting/s have been held in regards to the question asked. The Trust does not hold this data; tertiary Bristol Royal Hospital for Children guideline is followed.

- 4) *Whether the Trust / Hospital has sought commissioning to treat this cohort of patients*

Answer: No, as the patient numbers are too low.

- a. *And who did it approach e.g ICB or NHSE*

Answer: No applicable.

- b. *and whether this was approved or rejected along with the reasons why or timescales for implementation, if relevant.*

Answer: No applicable.