

Axial Spondyloarthritis

Reference Number: F4795
Date of Response: 06/09/2022

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response, in **blue bold text** below:

Royal Devon's Eastern FOI Office Response

1. On behalf of which NHS Trust are you responding?

RDU Health care NHS Foundation Trust - Eastern area

2. Does your Trust have a local inflammatory back pain pathway in place?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know/not sure

3. Do you have a local education programme for primary care practitioners including GPs and first contact practitioners? Please give details.

- Yes
 No
 Don't know not sure

Please give details.

4. Are you aware of the average current waiting time from when a patient is referred from their GP to receiving their diagnosis. By this we mean from the moment the referral is received by rheumatology until the patient receives an official diagnosis.

- Yes
 No
 Don't know / not sure

5. What is the average current waiting from when a patient is referred from their GP to receiving their diagnosis. By this we mean from the moment the referral is received by rheumatology until the patient receives an official diagnosis.

Please select one of the following response options

Option	Please tick here (one option only)
Less than 1 month	
1 - 2 months	
2 - 3 months	
3 - 4 months	
4 - 5 months	
5 - 6 months	
6 - 12 months	
More than 12 months	
Don't know / not sure	This is variable due to investigations required.

6. How do you ensure patients are given information and support following their diagnosis?

Please select all response options which apply

Option	Please tick here (tick all that apply)
Written information	x
Verbal information	x
Access to a helpline	x
Named contact in the team	x
NASS self management session	
Group educational sessions	
Other (please provide details)	physiotherapy referral Open access hydro

7. What guidance are patients with axial SpA given when deciding whether to access biologic treatment?

- Written information
- Discussion with rheumatologist/rheumatology nurse specialist / other HCP
- None

8. Does the rheumatology department have access to a specialist physiotherapist.

- Yes, we have a rheumatology physiotherapist
- Yes, we have a MSK physiotherapist
- No, patients are referred to community physiotherapy
- No, we have no access to physiotherapy from rheumatology

9. What percentage of adults with axial SpA (AS) are referred to a specialist physiotherapist as described above for a structured exercise programme within your local area when first diagnosed?

All are offered

10. Do you provide patients with individual care plans when they are newly diagnosed?

- Yes, we provide full care plans discussed and assembled with patients
- Yes, care plans as part of their diagnosis letter
- No

11. Does this include specific information on flares?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know/not sure

12. Does the Trust have a dedicated axial SpA clinic? By this we mean a day or time when patients with axial SpA are seen by a multi-disciplinary team.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know / not sure

13. Which health professionals are available as part of the axial SpA clinic multi-disciplinary team?

- Consultant rheumatologist
- Registrar rheumatologist
- Rheumatology physiotherapist
- MSK physiotherapist
- Occupational therapist
- Rheumatology nurse
- Psychologist
- Other (please specify)
- Not applicable

14. Are axial SpA (AS) patients under the care of a rheumatologist offered access to psychological services?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know / not sure

Please give details of any mental health support available.

Thank you