

Our Ref: ID 1874

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
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Re: Freedom of Information Request - Allied Health Professions (AHP) led outpatients

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received into this office on 1st April 2021.

You Asked for:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to request the following information from your Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) FOI officer or responsible person. Please can you provide me with information regarding payment to all Allied Health Professions (AHP) led outpatient services:

1. Tariff paid to any AHP clinical out-patient service for a face to face appointment (this may be a payment per appointment, contact or session on a Payment by Result (PbR) type contract).
2. Tariff paid to AHP clinical out-patient service for a telehealth/digital/virtual appointment (this may be a payment per appointment, contact or session on a PbR type contract).
3. Tariff paid to AHP clinical out-patient service for a telephone appointment (this may be a payment per appointment, contact or session on a PbR type of contract).
4. Detail(s) of any block contract with any the AHP outpatient services that specify number of contacts; according to the terms of the contract do these contacts need to be face to face or can they be delivered via telehealth (which includes via video link, via a virtual platform, via a web link, via telephone).
5. Information of the above for financial year 2019/2020 and 2020/2021.

Please note: The 14 AHP professions are: Art Therapists, Drama therapists, Music therapists, Chiropodists/podiatrists, Dietitians, Occupational therapists, Operating Department Practitioners, Orthoptists, Osteopaths, Paramedics, Physiotherapists, Prosthetists and Orthotists, Radiographers, Speech and language therapists

Our Response:

1. The Tariff is based on outpatient tariff under Non Payment by Result (PbR) using the below Healthcare Resource Group's (HRG's): and provided were Allied Health Professions (AHP) clinics have been identified as AHP Non consultant led clinic. (2019/2020 tariff provided):

WF01B	First attendance - single professional
WF01A	Follow-up attendance - single professional

- AHP – Dietetics First appointment £56.43 Follow up £43.09
 - AHP – Optometrist First appointment £85.16 Follow up £57.46
 - AHP – Orthoptics First appointment £85.16 Follow Up £57.46
 - AHP – Podiatrists Follow Up £28.73
2. AHP appointments are generally delivered on a face to face basis, therefore no Telehealth, Digital or virtual appointments take place. However, virtual methods have been used where appropriate during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 3. Please see the answer to question number 2.
 4. The current implied contract documentation does not specify a method of contact with the patient, although face to face is assumed to be the default and definitely to be used when clinically mandated. Specific percentages of contacts via each method are not currently specified within the contracts, although this may change when the new contracts are negotiated for question number 3. Due to the pandemic, there has been a noticeable shift within all relevant specialties and where appropriate, from face to face to virtual appointments, which has been broadly welcomed by patients. This shift of activity is expected to be maintained to some extent, even when face to face contacts are more regularly used once COVID restrictions are no longer in place.
 5. The contract was a block contract during 2020/2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore, no activity is currently available. Please see below for the 2019/2020 financial year:

Clinic name	Sum of Activity Actual	Sum of Price Actual
AHP - Dietetics	1,927	91,012
AHP - Optometrist	5,388	328,375
AHP - Orthoptics	3,418	201,019
AHP - Podiatrists	282	8,102

We hope this information is useful, however if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Corporate Affairs Team (contact details at the top of this letter)

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