2 April 2019

Re: Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your email, dated 11 March 2019, making a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for access to information which may be held by NHS Greater Preston Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

Please find detailed below NHS Greater Preston CCG’s response to your request, which is formatted as follows:-

1. Details of NHS Greater Preston CCG’s decision in regard to the information requested.
2. A schedule of all the records covered by your request.
3. A statement concerning copyright and re-use of public sector information.
4. Details of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.

This letter addresses each of these parts in turn:-

1. Decision

I can confirm that NHS Greater Preston CCG holds the information requested.

2. Schedule of records/FOI response

Request: Does your organization presently use and/or endorse a (RPM) remote patient monitoring system to capture vital signs or other health related measurements whilst a patient is residing in their own home or being cared for in a non-acute environment such as community hospital/hospice/residential or care home - (Measurement examples being blood pressure/weight/temperature/Oxygen Saturation/EWS/ pulse/glucose etc.)?

Response: The CCG does not currently commission any remote patient monitoring systems.

Request: If the answer is NO – Is telemedicine/ RPM, something that the CCG would consider (within the next 2 years) as a way of either reducing hospital re-admissions, saving district nursing time & cost, for patient convenience and/or recognizing and acting upon patient deterioration sooner?
Response: Yes, a clinical pilot is currently being considered in conjunction with our Community Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) team.

Request: If the CCG is not considering RPM for suitable patients (able to take their own readings or have a relative who can do this for them) – is there a reason why this is not being considered?

Response: Not applicable.

Request: If the answer is YES – RPM is presently used in the community - could you please detail:

- The system type/name/supplier
- Where do you send this data/measurements to – for instance…GP system
- When this system came into use and when contract expires
- How much does this costs the CCG (approximately) per patient or per year for multiple patients
- What patient data is captured & is there measurements you would like to capture but cannot achieve at the moment?
- Has there been any analysis of this data to demonstrate that remote patient monitoring from home, (or community residence) has reduced patient admissions into hospital and/or improved patient care/medication needs etc?

Response: Not applicable.

Request: Who is the main person(s)/ decision maker (s) or team – who would probably be responsible (or is responsible) for the decision to use remote patient monitoring in the community?

Response: The Management Executive Team.

3. Copy and reuse of public sector information provided in FOI response

Most of the information provided by NHS Greater Preston CCG in response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 requests will be subject to copyright protection. In the majority of cases the information will be owned by NHS Greater Preston CCG. The copyright for other information may be owned by another person or organisation, as indicated in the information itself: in this case you must apply to the copyright owner to obtain their permission.
You are free to use any information supplied for your own use, including for non-commercial research purposes. It may also be used for the purposes of news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example, by publishing the information or issuing copies to the public will require the permission of the copyright owner.

4. Right of appeal to FOI response

If you are dissatisfied with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you are entitled to complain in the following way:

Initially you should complain in writing to the freedom of information officer, either by email on gpccg.foi@nhs.net or post to Chorley House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TT, specifying why you feel you have been wrongly denied access to the information requested. The freedom of information officer will ensure your complaint is investigated under NHS Greater Preston CCG’s internal processes and provide you with a written response within 20 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Greater Preston CCG.

Yours sincerely

Helen Curtis
FOI Lead
Head of Quality and Performance