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

Thank you for your email, dated 24 May 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 the CCG have an existing service specification for anticoagulation services in:
   a) primary care
   b) secondary care
   c) community care

If yes, please send me the CCG’s service specification for anticoagulation services for:
   a) primary care
   b) secondary care
   c) community care

Response: Yes, a service specification is available for the primary care service, a copy of which is attached.
Request: For each of the below settings, how frequently is the anticoagulation service measured against the service specification? Please use the table below to share your answer:

Response: The primary care anticoagulation service is measured against the service specification annually.

Request: Please provide a copy of the most recent measurement report for anticoagulation services in:
  a) primary care
  b) secondary care
  c) community care

Response: Please see the attached document.

Request: For patients with Atrial Fibrillation (AF) on warfarin therapy attending the anticoagulation service, please provide the following information:
  a) Does the CCG have in place a minimum service target for the percentage of patients who are within therapeutic range?
  b) If yes, what is the CCG’s minimum service target for the percentage of patients who are within therapeutic range?
  c) For the year 2017/18, what number and percentage of patients were within therapeutic range? Please provide these figures for all data intervals for which this information was collected.

Should the CCG not hold data specifically relating to Atrial Fibrillation patients on warfarin therapy, kindly provide instead this data for all patients on anticoagulation therapy in whatever format is available to the CCG.

Response: The CCG does not have a minimum service target for the percentage of patients who are within therapeutic range.

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