FOI 1949

Date 13/06/2023

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request. Please note, this is a cross-site response for Bedford site and Luton site.

You asked:

1. **What are your current skin cancer patient clinical pathway guidelines e.g., from initial patient symptoms in a GP setting to specialist referral as well as treatment and follow-up procedures and protocol. Attached are two outdated CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) pathway guidelines for reference.**

Please see attached.

1. **Does your skin cancer pathway include remote patient-clinic interactions (as opposed to face-to-face interactions), Yes or No and if yes, elaborate what they are and what stage in the pathway they’re used e.g., teledermatology (the use of digital photography to assess patient lesions) at the GP stage.**

Dermatology Luton do use teledermatology for patients below the age of 80 who see a nurse within the dermatology service initially who takes the history and images which are later reviewed by a consultant for decision. The GPs are not consistently providing appropriate dermascopic images for us to provide teledermatology for initial referral.

1. **What were your latest skin cancer pathway guidelines in 2019/2020 prior to the COVID-19 pandemic (announced as a pandemic by WHO on 11 March 2020).**

The attached guidelines are our latest guidelines.

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Yours sincerely,

*FOI Officer*

Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust