

## Freedom of Information Act 2000 disclosure log entry

### Reference

18-19263

### Date sent

01/02/2019

### Subject

GIDS Waiting Times and Hormone Therapy Treatment

### Details of enquiry

1. The average waiting time for a first appointment with the GIDS at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust
2. The average waiting time between appointments with the GIDS at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust.
3. The average number of appointments before medical treatment (e.g. hormone blockers or HRT) is provided
4. The average waiting time from referral to the commencement of medical treatment (e.g. hormone blockers or HRT)

### Response Sent

I would be very grateful if you could supply me with the following information.

1. The average waiting time for a first appointment with the GIDS at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust  
The average waiting time for a first appointment with GIDS, taken from the dataset we hold, is 195 days. Please note this average is taken from referrals dated January 2013 – December 2018 and is therefore not a current average.
2. The average waiting time between appointments with the GIDS at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust.  
The average waiting time between appointments in GIDS is 59 days. Please note this average is taken from referrals dated January 2013 – December 2018 and is therefore not a current average.  
Caution needs to be exercised in interpreting this figure as length of time between appointments varies on a case by case basis as appropriate for individual patient needs.
3. The average number of appointments before medical treatment (e.g. hormone blockers or HRT) is provided  
The minority of young people attending the GIDS will be referred to the Endocrine Liaison clinic.  
Following assessment in the GIDS in appropriate cases young people are referred to the endocrine clinic, most often for assessment for the hypothalamic blocker. In a very small number of cases referral will be for another reason such as discussion about the blocker.

The data we can supply is the average number of appointments for young people before their referral to the endocrine liaison clinic, most of whom, but not all, will subsequently be prescribed the blocker. When the blocker is prescribed the GP administers the treatment so we do not hold accurate data regarding the actual start date of the blocker.

On this basis the average number of GIDS appointments before a young person is seen by our endocrinology team is 7 (data taken from January 2013 to December 18).

4. The average waiting time from referral to the commencement of medical treatment (e.g. hormone blockers or HRT)

As explained in the response to the previous question we do not hold accurate data regarding the start date of physical intervention as this is supported by the young person's GP.

On this basis the average length of time before a young person is seen by our endocrinology is 68 weeks (data taken from January 2013 to December 2018). This time includes both time on the waiting list and time in assessment prior to referral to the endocrine clinic for appropriate young people.