

Freedom of Information Act 2000 disclosure log entry

Reference

18-19333

Date sent

25/03/2019

Subject

Gender Dysphoria Referrals 2012-2018

Details of enquiry

For each of the years between 2012 and 2018, could you please provide me with the number of

1. Patients with gender dysphoria under 16 who have been referred to specialist services, excluding hormone blockers (e.g. counselling, psychotherapy, reviews to monitor gender identity development) with or without parental consent
2. The number of patients with gender dysphoria under 16 who have been referred to specialist services, excluding hormone blockers (e.g. counselling, psychotherapy, reviews to monitor gender identity development) WITHOUT parental consent
3. The number of patients with gender dysphoria under 16 who have been given hormone therapy (hormone blockers) with or without parental consent
4. The number of patients with gender dysphoria under 16 who have been given hormone therapy (hormone blockers) with or without parental consent
5. The number of patients with gender dysphoria under 16 who have been given hormone therapy (hormone blockers) WITHOUT parental consent

Also, can you please tell me under what circumstances treatment for a patient under 16 can be given without parental consent?

Response Sent

For each of the years between 2012 and 2018, could you please provide me with the number of

1. Patients with gender dysphoria under 16 who have been referred to specialist services, excluding hormone blockers (e.g. counselling, psychotherapy, reviews to monitor gender identity development) with or without parental consent

Please see below a table showing accepted referrals to the service for each year from 2012 to 2018 for ages under 16. These figures do not include young people who have been referred, but are not accepted, as they are not appropriate for the service, i.e., fall outside the age range of the service, do not have an issue around gender.

Year	Accepted referrals to GIDS service
2012	182
2013	251

2014	323
2015	761
2016	1,272
2017	1,570
2018	1,451

These figures are the number of young people referred to the service. Not all of these young people will fulfil the criteria for a diagnosis of gender dysphoria. All referrals to the GIDS complete a comprehensive assessment in the first instance, this includes assessment of gender dysphoria and general psychosocial wellbeing.

2. The number of patients with gender dysphoria under 16 who have been referred to specialist services, excluding hormone blockers (e.g. counselling, psychotherapy, reviews to monitor gender identity development) WITHOUT parental consent

We have this data on a case by case basis but not in a collectable form. Referral to the service without parental consent would be highly unusual. We encourage referrers to work with young people to involve parents and most often this is achieved.

3. The number of patients with gender dysphoria under 16 who have been given hormone therapy (hormone blockers) with or without parental consent

We have collated data for young people under 15 years olds referred to the endocrine clinic and who have provided consent for hormone blocking treatment as part of that referral. We assume that these young people have gone on to receive hormone blocking treatment. We do not have collated data for young people referred for blockers aged between 15 and 16 years old.

Our data suggests that in total we have had 267 young people accessing hormone blocking treatment under the age of 15 through the Early Intervention treatment pathway between 2012-2018. Please see below for a breakdown of this number per calendar year:

Calendar Year	Number accessing Hormone blocking Treatment
1 st Jan 2012 – 31 st Dec 2012	n=9
1 st Jan 2013 – 31 st Dec 2013	n=10
1 st Jan 2014 – 31 st Dec 2014	n=27
1 st Jan 2015 – 31 st Dec 2015	n=51
1 st Jan 2016 – 31 st Dec 2016	n=51
1 st Jan 2017 – 31 st Dec 2017	n=66
1 st Jan 2018 – 31 st Dec 2018	n=53

- The number of patients with gender dysphoria under 16 who have been given hormone therapy (hormone blockers) with or without parental consent

This is a repeated question

- The number of patients with gender dysphoria under 16 who have been given hormone therapy (hormone blockers) WITHOUT parental consent

None of the young people under the age of 15 years old have needed to access blockers without parental consent.

Also, can you please tell me under what circumstances treatment for a patient under 16 can be given without parental consent?

In theory if a child is looked after by the local authority and they are the corporate parent they could be referred for blockers without consent of the biological parents. Again we would always try to work with parents to address their concerns and most often it is possible to get parental agreement.