

Our Ref: FOI ID 49323

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NHS South Sefton CCG

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Re: Freedom of Information Request

Please find below the response to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding cataract services within NHS South Sefton CCG.

Request/[Response](#):

1. Is there a named individual who has been chosen within your organisation to lead on the changes required by the guideline?

[Sarah McGrath – Planned Care Lead](#)

2. On a scale of 1-10 (10 being an absolute priority) how would you rank the prioritisation you are giving to the implementation of the NICE Cataracts in adults (management) guideline?

[5](#)

3. Has your organisation carried out an impact assessment against the guideline's recommendations to find out whether there are gaps in current service provision?

[The CCG's Cataract access policy has been reviewed in light of the guideline](#)

4. a) Has your organisation developed a strategy to ensure the implementation of the guideline?

[NHS South Sefton CCG already have a community optometrist-led pre-referral scheme in place. This is an opportunity to provide information on what cataract surgery involves and for shared decision making around the risks and benefits of surgery](#)

4. b) If yes to 4a) can you outline the timeframe by which you plan to implement the guideline's recommendations?

[This is already in place](#)

5. Do commissioners have the opportunity to affect decisions made by trusts with regards to the commissioning or procurement of intraocular lenses?

No

6. Has an assessment been made by your organisation regarding the indicative costs and savings associated with the new guideline?

This exercise has been undertaken in relation to the CCG's cataract access policy

7. Has an internal assessment been made as to how recommendation 1.2.2 - instructing that cataract surgery should not be restricted on the basis of visual acuity – will be implemented?

NHS South Sefton CCG's cataract access policy includes visual acuity criteria but symptoms and impact on lifestyle are also considered as part of assessment by an accredited optometrist. Individual funding request (IFR) processes exist for exceptional cases

8. Has your organisation de-commissioned any element of your ophthalmology services in the last 24 months?

No

9. Has your organisation implemented any policy in the last 24 months that has resulted in delayed patient access to cataract care?

The Cataract Access policy implemented in December 2016 will ensure patients are treated according to their clinical need

10. a) How many YAG lasers associated with cataracts has your CCG been charged for by your local trust over the past 3 financial years (Per year)?

CCG	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Grand Total
	397	376	331	1104

10. b) How much has YAG lasering cost the CCG over the past 3 financial years?

CCG	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Grand Total
	£84,525	£59,750	£53,927	£198,202

10. c) Is YAG lasering reimbursed to the trust or covered in the cataract tariff?

These are HRG tariff costs. NHS South Sefton CCG is not aware/involved in any reimbursement.