

Our Ref:51037

7 September 2018

southseftonccg.foi@nhs.net

NHS South Sefton CCG

Merton House
Stanley Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 3DL

Tel: 0151 317 8456

Email: southsefton.ccg@nhs.net

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Please find below the response to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding non-surgical treatments for Facial Nerve Palsy patients within NHS South Sefton CCG.

Request/[Response](#):

1. Of those with facial nerve palsy who have not made a full or nearly full recovery at 12 weeks following onset, can you provide an estimate of the percentage of such patients who are referred for rehabilitation of persistent facial pain/discomfort and dysfunction?
2. If a patient with facial nerve palsy is routinely referred to secondary care for rehabilitation therapy, which hospital(s) and department(s) do you refer to?
3. If routinely referring a patient with facial nerve palsy for therapy, do you refer to a specialist facial therapist or to a local general physiotherapy team?
 - a. Do you have specific centres that you refer to? If so please indicate which ones.
 - b. What is the average cost of a course of physical rehabilitation therapy?
4. Does the decision making panel for individual funding requests differentiate between referral to a specialist facial therapist (i.e. with a postgraduate qualification) and a general physiotherapist or speech and language therapist?
5. Is specialist physiotherapy or facial therapy freely available to patients with facial nerve palsy or is it funded on an individual basis?
 - a. If not routinely funded, what is the reason?
6. How many individual funding requests have you received to access specialist physiotherapy or facial therapy in the last 12 months?
 - a. How many were agreed?
 - b. How many were declined?
 - c. If declined, on what basis were they declined?
7. Is Trophic Electrical Stimulation (TES) freely available to patients with facial nerve palsy or is it funded on an individual basis?
 - a. If routinely available, where do you refer patients to for TES?
 - b. What evidence do you use to support routine funding of TES?

- c. If routinely available, what is the average cost of a course of TES?

For Questions 1-7

NHS South Sefton CCG does not hold this information. You may wish to refer you query to –

Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:
FOIrequests@aintree.nhs.uk.