

FOI_0723_2022-23 – FOI Request Concerning – Refusal to Treat Patient

I can confirm that this is only for Inpatient care in the community and Adult Mental Health wards, with just treatments not surgeries.

Below are questions for the Year: 2020, 2021, and 2022

- 1. Can the Clinical Manager / Administrative personnel refuse a patient treatment/surgery for any reason? And who decides for denying treatment/surgery?**

No, all treatment decisions are made by the MDT.

- 2. Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment/surgery for refusing to do a PCR test?**

Clinician to make the risk assessment.

- 3. How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not doing a PCR test?**

None

- 4. Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment or surgery for refusing to do an LFT test?**

Clinician to make the risk assessment.

- 5. How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not doing an LFT test?**

None

- 6. Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment/surgery for refusing to wear a face mask?**

The decision to be made by clinicians involved in the care of the patient. If delaying treatment, or offering a virtual appointment is not detrimental to the patient they may choose to delay but not refuse.

- 7. How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not wearing a face mask?**

None

- 8. Can the hospital refuse a patient treatment or surgery for not wearing a visor?**

The decision to be made by clinicians involved in the care of the patient. If delaying treatment, or offering a virtual appointment is not detrimental to the patient they may choose to delay but not refuse.

9. How many patients have been refused treatment or surgery for not wearing a visor?

None

10. What is the difference between a face mask and a visor?

Type IIR facemasks protect others because they cover the mouth and nose of the wearer and prevent droplet transmission of the COVID-19 virus. These masks also protect the wearer from droplet transmission as they are fluid repellent. A face covering protects others from droplet transmission from the wearer but does not provide the wearer with protection. A face visor can be worn in addition to a face mask/covering but alone does not provide protection as it does not cover the mouth and nose, nor does it filter airborne particles, so both the wearer and others are at risk when worn alone.

11. Can the hospital refuse a patient denial for a chaperone? And if so, Why? What is the protocol for access for a chaperone?

Patients are not denied a chaperone, the only time a chaperone may be delayed would be because the staff are all busy on other tasks. Staff are allocated tasks and duties by the nurse in charge of the shift.

12. If a patient is staying in the hospital, can the hospital deny visitation for this patient? If so, Why? What is the protocol for a patient to seek visitation rights?

Visiting may be refused if the patient is in isolation for an infectious organism or if the ward is closed for an outbreak. However, if visiting is required to the benefit of the patient, the ward should seek advice from the infection prevention team to ensure the correct mitigations are put in place to keep visitors and all patients safe. A visitor may also be asked not to visit if they are unwell with COVID-19.

13. What are the protocols whereby the patient is refused treatment or surgery, who makes these decisions? And what happens next?

All treatment decisions are made by the MDT and discussed with the patient/representative (and carer where appropriate). Conversations are documented in the patient's records, and copies of care plans are provided to the patient.

14. Every time a patient is referred to your hospital, how much money does the hospital receive for that patient?

None, the service is provided on a block contract.

15. Would you also send the policies and procedures you have in place for face covering, visor, PCR testing and Lateral Flow Testing?

COVID-19 government guidance has been continually followed. As guidance is updated it is archived.

Below are the latest guidelines.

W/c 23/5/22: Face coverings/face masks are no longer required in Solent NHS Trust.

COVID-19 guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control>

IPC Manual:

[C1244 National-infection-prevention-and-control-manual-for-England April-2022 v1.1.pdf](#)

Testing guidance, updated 4th April, previous guidance withdrawn:

www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/wp-content/uploads/sites/52/2022/04/C1624-Novel-coronavirus-COVID-19-standard-operating-procedure-testing-for-inpatients-April-2022.pdf