



**Lincolnshire
Integrated Care Board**

Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – DECISION NOTICE

Dear Requester

FOI Reference Number: 72671

I refer to your email of 08 March 2024 requesting information in relation to wait time statistics on the 2 week wait pathway.

I can confirm on behalf of NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) and in accordance with S.1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) that we do hold some of the information that you have requested. Please see further details below:

I was wondering whether you could help me with the following questions in relation to GP surgeries/primary care:

1. Wait time statistics for patients on the 2WW pathway

In line with new guidance we no longer refer to the pathway as '2 week wait'. They are all now urgent suspected cancer pathways. I have attached a link here which will add some narrative to this recent change too- [Cancer waiting times | Cancer Research UK](#)

Urgent suspected Cancer performance (old 2WW)

Cancer Type	7 days or less	8 - 14 days	15 - 16 days	17 - 21 days	22 - 28 days	More than 29 days	Total	% 7 days or less	% 14 days or less
Skin	1092	1888	631	1872	1132	506	7121	15.3%	41.8%

Average wait between receipt of referral and first appointment 16.8 days

[United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust \(ULHT\) 28 day performance](#)

Cancer Site	7 days or less	8 - 14 days	15 - 21 days	22 - 28 days	29 - 35 days	36 - 42 days	43 - 49 days	More than 49 days	Total	% 7 days or less	% 28 days or less
Skin	994	1820	2441	1129	340	145	91	216	7177	13.8%	89%

[United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust \(ULHT\) 62 day performance](#)

Cancer Site	31 days or less	32 - 48 days	49 - 62 days	63 - 90 days	91 - 104 days	More than 104 days	Total	% 31 days or less	% 62 days or less
Skin	395	89	36	30.5	9.5	24.5	584.5	67.6%	89%

Our performance within Skin remains consistently excellent within Lincolnshire, with a one stop clinic, the use of Dermatoscope's and advice & guidance we deliver a very efficient service.

2. Wait time statistics for patients on the non-urgent pathway

This information is not held by the ICB. I would recommend you contact [United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust](#) directly for the information you require.

3. Patient feedback on skin cancer referrals

This information is not held by the ICB. I would recommend you contact [United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust](#) directly for the information you require.

4. Reasons/ data explaining why patients might struggle to access the service

This information is not held by the ICB. I would recommend you contact [United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust](#) and the individual GP practices directly for the information you require.

5. Whether AI is used in the diagnosis of skin cancers? If so, can practice nurses facilitate this delivery?

Currently we do not use Artificial Intelligence (AI) within Lincolnshire as part of the Dermatology service. This often works well alongside Teledermatology and is being used within other areas of the UK. I have attached a link to the NHSE roadmap for Teledermatology and the use of AI. In Lincolnshire we plan to scope the use of both within the 5 year plan.

Link for NHSE roadmap: [NHS England » A teledermatology roadmap: implementing safe and effective teledermatology triage pathways and processes](#)

Useful article on Telederm and AI: [The Artificial Intelligence in Teledermatology: A Narrative Review on Opportunities, Perspectives, and Bottlenecks - PMC \(nih.gov\)](#)

6. To what extent is digital teledermatology used, if at all

In Lincolnshire we have Dermatoscope's in most of our GP practices. GP's are encouraged to use these as part of the advice and guidance. Currently we do not have Teledermatology within Lincolnshire, however this will be built into a long term plan as we recognise the need for this within health inequalities.

7. What training/role do practice nurses have in relation to skin cancer diagnosis - is there any scope for improvement for this?

This information is not held by the ICB. I would recommend you contact the individual GP practices directly for the information you require.

8. Any information on your perceived challenges/gaps in the service

This information is not held by the ICB. I would recommend you contact the individual GP practices directly for the information you require.

I hope that this answers your queries with the information we currently hold, but if I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to

Arden & GEM Greater East Midlands Commissioning Support Unit
FOI TEAM/Corporate Communications Team
1st Floor, St John's House
East Street
Leicester
LE1 6NB

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided the ICB.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: telephone 0303 123 1113, email icocasework@ico.org.uk and <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

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<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>

Yours faithfully

Lindsay Parker
Senior Freedom of Information Officer
On behalf of NHS Lincolnshire ICB