

5 November 2021

Resumption of Urology Outpatient Procedures and Treatment

I would, under the Freedom of Information Act, like to know what outpatient procedures and treatments are now being resumed by Urology (previously pre-Covid in the City Hospital). For example, urodynamics, face-to-face appointments, bladder instillations etc., plus where these are taking place and when they resumed?

Urology outpatient procedures and treatments were resumed on a phased basis in Urology Day-care, Level 3 Tower, Belfast City Hospital (BCH) from April 2021 and these include Prostate Assessment Clinics, BCG treatments, transperineal biopsy, TROCs, stone treatments, kidney stent removals and catheter changes.

Some services, such as red flag flexible cystoscopy and BCG treatments, continued throughout the COVID-19 pandemic in the BCH Day Procedure Unit.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, all surgery cases performed have been of an Absolute Priority or Priority 2 classification.

No Urodynamics procedures and no intravesical therapies have been performed for 18 months, although a few LA botox lists were carried out a number of months ago.

Face-to-face outpatient clinics have resumed with reduced patient numbers in the BCH Outpatient Department, but these are gradually increasing and there have been many telephone outpatient clinics performed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

A significant amount of patient validation work has also taken place.