

30 August 2023

Breast Care Nurse Team

I wish to make an FOI request for the following - within the Belfast Trust Breast Care Nurse Team:

- 1. How many patients are on the list to have a Breast Care Nurse appointment for breast reconstruction?**

There are currently 17 patients waiting for a Breast Care Nurse reconstruction clinic appointment.

- 2. How many patients are waiting to have an appointment with a Breast Care Nurse for breast reconstruction due to BRCA gene?**

Of the 17 patients above, 11 patient referrals are related to the BRCA gene.

- 3. How often are these types of clinics?**

Breast Care Nurse reconstruction appointments are being arranged on an “as required” basis, when the Consultant has indicated they are planning a date for the reconstruction surgery.

- 4. How is priority given to patients on the list, including those with BRCA gene?**

Patients’ surgery is planned in order of having been placed on the waiting list for reconstruction, prior to this a Breast Care Nurse appointment will be scheduled

- 5. Please provide the guidance document relating to this priority.**

In relation to the above, there is no guidance document that relates to this priority.

- 6. Is there a requirement to have a Breast Care Nurse recon consultation so many days/weeks prior to your surgery date?**

Prior to reconstruction surgery, whilst each patient is required to be seen by a Breast Care Nurse at a reconstruction clinic, there is no set timeframe for this prior to the date for surgery and this would be arranged on a case-by-case basis.

- 7. How many consultations does the patient have on average with the Breast Care Nurse team before surgery?**

On average, one consultation with the Breast Care Nurse team prior to reconstruction surgery is sufficient, although further appointments can be arranged as / when required.