

8 February 2024

Local Healthcare and Support Service Provision for Myeloma Patients

Total population size served by HSC Trust.

As a Trust we deliver integrated Health & Social Care to approximately 340,000 citizens in Belfast and provide the majority of Regional specialist services to all of NI (£1.9m).

Number of hospitals providing oncology services.

Systemic Anti-Cancer Treatments (SACT) and Radiotherapy services are provided on 1 hospital site, surgical oncology services provided on 3 hospital sites.

Total number of consultant haematologists employees; specialist haematology registrars employed; consultant haematologists specialising in multiple myeloma; haematology clinical nurse specialists employed and multiple myeloma clinical nurse specialists.

10 substantive Consultant Haematologists in post, 4 of which specialise in multiple myeloma.

15 Haematology Registrars in post.

5 Haematology Clinical Nurse Specialists, 2 of which specialise in multiple myeloma.

During 2023 (1 Jan – 31 Dec), please provide the:

Total number of multiple myeloma (MM) cases diagnosed (Please state which code(s) were used)

30 patients with a new diagnosis of melanoma who had their first treatment in Belfast Trust. Diagnosis code was 90.0.

If known, how many people were diagnosed with smouldering multiple myeloma?

<5 patients with a new diagnosis of asymptomatic Myeloma who had their first treatment in Belfast Trust.

Where numbers are low we have indicate <5 rather than give the exact figure. We feel that providing the exact figure has the potential to make people identifiable and so that information is exempt from release under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

8 February 2024

N.B. The information above is provisional and has not yet been validated, so may not be fully accurate.

How many in-person haematology-based consultation/telephone haematology-based consultations/ video haematology-based consultation took place for people diagnosed with MM?

Belfast Trust does not have myeloma specific clinics. To retrieve this information would require a manual trawl of all clinic attendances in 2023 which would take more than 18 hours. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000, the limit has been specified as £450 and represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.

**During 2023 (1 Jan – 31 Dec):
Were multiple myeloma (MM) patients discussed/reviewed at a MM specific MDT or general haematology MDT?**

They were discussed at a lymphoma/ myeloma/ CLL MDT

How frequently did MDT meetings meet?

The MDT met weekly, with the exception of 2 bank holidays.

What percentage of MM patients diagnosed in 2023 were reviewed/discussed at a MDT?

100%

Which professionals/disciplines are represented on MDT meetings for MM?

Consultant Haematologists, Oncologists, Pathologists and Radiologists. Clinical Scientists, Research Nurses, Clinical Nurse specialists (Lymphoma & Myeloma) & Specialist Radiographer.

What supportive and palliative care services are available for MM patients?

The hospital specialist palliative care team will see all patients referred to their service; they can see both inpatients and outpatients. They are also available for advice.