

17 May 2024

Ophthalmology Services

Under the Freedom of Information Act, we would like to request the answers to the below questions, in relation to your Ophthalmology services at the hospital Trusts.

WET-AMD INJECTIONS:

- 1. What is the maximum number of wet-AMD injections you can facilitate in a week?**

The Macular Clinic has capacity to schedule 382 eye injections per week, on average. This will vary when there is staff training or staff absence.

- 2. Do you run out-of-hours lists to keep up with demand for wet-AMD injections?**

Yes

- If you are running additional lists, how are these lists being accommodated?**

Additional lists are run at weekends in the Macular Clinic.

- If you are running additional lists, are you utilising any alternative clinical space?**

There is adequate clinic space to accommodate injections for AMD in the Macular Clinic area when running additional lists.

- 3. What is the current waiting time for patients to secure an appointment for Wet-AMD injections?**

Currently there is a 6-week delay in being able to schedule injections.

- What was the wait time at the same point in time in 2023?**

There was a 9-week wait delay

- 4. How many patients are currently waiting for an appointment at a wet-AMD clinic?**

There are 1735 patients awaiting an injection appointment and 940 patients waiting for a review appointment for imaging or with a consultant.

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- **What was the wait time at the same point in time in 2023?**

In 2023, the waiting time for wet AMD was 9 weeks.

- 5. Do you have a contingency plan to increase capacity should this be required?**

Yes

- **If so, what is your contingency plan for wet-AMD injections?**

The Macular Clinic have access to six injection rooms across two sites and this is adequate physical capacity for AMD injections.

The service runs additional lists at weekends to increase capacity but this is dependent on staff volunteering to work additional hours.

GENERAL CAPACITY:

- 6. Are you outsourcing any ophthalmology clinical work to external parties or utilising insourcing partners? If so, what?**

Yes, outsourcing AMD with an external party.

- 7. What condition takes up the majority of your clinical slots?**

AMD

- 8. Would you consider a mobile unit as an option to expand services and capacity?**

The Macular Service has access to two sites / six injection rooms so no additional physical capacity is required.

- 9. What is the name and contact details of the Ophthalmology Service Lead?**

Mary Hanrahan, Service Manager Ophthalmology
Email: Mary.Hanrahan@belfasttrust.hscni.net