

Reference:	FOI.2824.20
Subject:	Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) services for menopause
Date of Request:	26 March 2020

Requested:

I am trying to establish what provisions there are within each CCG area for women who are going through or about to go through menopause please. The aim is to get a clear picture of what NHS services are available for women across the country.

It's a complicated picture because some menopause services are provided by GP surgeries whilst some are provided by hospitals or alternatively there are also specialist NHS menopause clinics in some areas. And of course there may be other services, although I'm not sure in what format yet.

With that in mind please feel free to come back to me with suggestions on how I can best access the required information if my questions below are unclear or insufficient.

1. Are you, as the local CCG, responsible for commissioning all services related to diagnosis and treatment of menopause in your area? If not, then can you please provide details of who does commission menopause services in your area?
2. What services for diagnosis and treatment of menopause are available in your area? This could include specialist menopause primary health care providers within GP surgeries or in local hospitals or in specialist clinics.
3. Is there a waiting list for specialist menopause services in your area and if so, roughly how long for?
4. Have any services related to diagnosis and treatment of menopause been closed in your area? If yes, can you provide details of what that service was and when it closed please?
5. Does the CCG have plans to open any new menopause services? If yes please provide details.
6. What is the first line of treatment recommended by the CCG for women with peri and menopause symptoms? i.e. what is directed on the Formulary?
7. What is the second line of treatment recommended by the CCG for women with peri and menopause symptoms? i.e. what is directed on the Formulary?

Response:

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) are a feature of the NHS in England; there are no commissioning of healthcare through this route in Wales.

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms it has no commissioned services related to diagnosis and treatment of menopause. The UHB develops and provides health services based on the needs of the local community across three (3) counties, Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire.

2. The UHB confirms it does not have a dedicated specialist menopause service. Menopause treatment is managed within primary care and sexual health. However, the UHB are working towards achieving the NICE guidelines and are planning on utilising support from a Women's Health Implementation Group (WHIG).
3. The UHB confirms the waiting list to be seen in clinic is four (4) to six (6) weeks.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. The UHB confirms women are assessed on an individual basis and medication is prescribed, where necessary, based on the patient's needs.
7. See response to question 6.