

Reference:	FOI.2240.20
Subject:	Continuing healthcare
Date of Request:	6 January 2020

Requested:

In establishing eligibility for NHS Continuing Healthcare, a CCG/ Primary Health Board must apply the Primary Health Needs Test, (Coughlan Case Law).

1. How does NHS Hywel Dda Health Board establish whether a person's needs are within/outside local authority legal limits; i.e. merely incidental or ancillary to the provision of the accommodation which a local authority is under a duty to provide and of a nature which it can be expected that an authority whose primary responsibility is to provide social services, can be expected to provide?
2. Is there one standard/benchmark applied to all CHC assessments, to establish eligibility for NHS Continuing Healthcare? If so, please provide details and copies of relevant documents, OR
3. Is each case considered individually, on a case-by-case basis, according to each individual's particular needs? If so, please provide details and copies of relevant documents.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) follows the National Framework for Continuing NHS Healthcare 2014 to establish a person's needs and the level of health and social care needed. A link to the Continuing NHS Healthcare framework has been provided:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/746063/20181001_National_Framework_for_CHC_and_FNC_-_October_2018_Revised.pdf
2. To establish eligibility for Continuing Healthcare (CHC), the Decision Support Tool (DST) produced by Welsh Government is used to assist practitioners to outline the level of needs an individual has in conjunction with other nursing, medical and social care.
A copy of the DST has been provided, Attachment 1.
3. The Multi Disciplinary Team (MDT) utilise the DST to complete CHC assessments with individuals/families. The MDT will take in to consideration all information and determine if the totality suggests whether the individual has a primary need for health and/or social care.