

Reference:	FOI.2591.20
Subject:	Pelvic radiation disease specialist services
Date of Request:	26 February 2020

Requested:

1. Does your Health Board have specialist clinics for patients who have had treatment for cervical cancer and are experiencing the late effects of pelvic radiotherapy, e.g. bowel or urinary issues (also known as pelvic radiation disease or PRD)?
 - a. If so, please give details of:
 - i. The clinic(s) name and opening times
 - ii. Annual caseload
 - iii. The proportion of patients referred direct from oncology
 - iv. The proportion of patients referred from their GP
2. Do your oncology teams have a standardised method of identifying people with PRD for referral (e.g. by asking patients the questions in the ALERT-B tool to support the clinical assessment of patients suitable for referral to a gastroenterologist)?
3. Does your radiotherapy centre ensure patients are aware of possible acute and long-term side effects of pelvic radiotherapy before they undergo treatment? If so, how?
4. Does your radiotherapy centre offer a range of materials to support with acute or late effects of radiotherapy, e.g. booklets, symptom checklist, toilet cards? If so, what materials do you provide?
5. Do your gastroenterologists and dieticians use the PRD bowel algorithm, published in 'The Practical Management of the Gastrointestinal Symptoms of Pelvic Radiation Disease'?
https://www.macmillan.org.uk/images/practical-management-gi-symptoms-pelvic-radiation-disease_tcm9-300557.pdf

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms it does not have specialist clinics for patients who have received treatment for cervical cancer and experience late effects of pelvic radiotherapy.

Radiotherapy for UHB cervical cancer patients is undertaken by Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB); therefore, we recommend you redirect your request to the Freedom of Information Team in SBUHB, who may be able to help you further with your enquiry:-

By email: FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

Or alternatively, you can contact: FOIA Team, Swansea Bay University Health Board, Health Board Headquarters, 1 Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR.

2. The UHB confirms it does not use the ALERT-B tool. However, during follow up appointments, if any problems are identified, patients can be referred onto a gastroenterologist or for physiotherapy for bladder control.

3. The UHB confirms all patients who are referred for radiotherapy attend a consultation, during which acute and long-term side effects of pelvic radiotherapy are discussed, before treatment commences. Appropriate counselling services are also provided, if required.
4. The UHB confirms booklets on the late effects of radiotherapy and toilet cards supplied by Macmillan are given to patients. In addition, the UHB has started to offer the electronic Holistic Needs Assessment (eHNA) at follow up appointments. The eHNA is used to help identify a person's needs and concerns, and informs the development of a personalised care and support plan.
5. The UHB confirms referrals from gastroenterology clinics for patients with pelvic radiation disease (PRD) are rarely received. However, our specialist dieticians are aware of the PRD bowel algorithm and would use in practice.