

## Freedom of Information Request

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**Reference Number:** EPUT.FOI.24.3419  
**Date Received:** 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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**Information Requested:**

Under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000 please could you respond the questions below.

Postural tachycardia syndrome (PoTS) is a neurovascular condition characterised as an abnormal response by the autonomic nervous system to upright posture. The condition causes affected patients of all ages to experience a range of symptoms requiring extensive clinical investigations involving neurology and cardiology specialties to inform a positive diagnosis.

Please consult with cardiology, neurology, emergency medicine, care of the elderly and paediatrics specialties to provide the information requested.

1. How many patients are referred to your Trust annually with a suspected diagnosis of PoTS and how many diagnosed PoTS patients are under active care under specialties within the Trust?

Essex Partnership University Trust (EPUT) took responsibility of the Lighthouse Child Development Centre 1<sup>st</sup> March 22. The Lighthouse does not hold this information in relation to children with Postural tachycardia syndrome. Paediatric Cardiology, neurology, acute paediatrics service is managed under Mid, South and Essex (SUFHT).

2. Is there evidence of an increase in referrals of PoTS patients since May 2020 due to patients suffering with long-Covid?

Essex Partnership University Trust (EPUT) took responsibility of the Lighthouse Child Development Centre 1<sup>st</sup> March 22. The Lighthouse does not hold this information in relation to children with Postural tachycardia syndrome. Paediatric Cardiology, neurology, acute paediatrics service is managed under Mid, South and Essex (SUFHT).

3. How many patients with a suspected or confirmed diagnosis of PoTS are seen annually in the Emergency Department or admitted as an emergency?

Paediatric Cardiology, neurology, acute paediatrics service is managed under Mid, South and Essex (SUFHT).

4. To which individual specialty or specialties are PoTS patients referred for investigation, diagnosis and longer-term management? E.g., cardiology, neurology, care of the elderly, paediatrics. Please specify separately for children and adults, where applicable.

Paediatric Cardiology, neurology, acute paediatrics service is managed under Mid, South and Essex (SUFHT).

5. Within your Trust do a) adult patients and b) paediatric patients diagnosed with PoTS have access to a specialised PoTS clinic or service for treatment by dedicated clinicians with an interest/expertise in the condition? If so, please provide details of specialised adult and paediatric services in place.

Paediatric Cardiology, neurology, acute paediatrics service is managed under Mid, South and Essex (SUFHT).

6. Where dedicated PoTS services are available within your Trust, are there any restrictions in place around acceptance of new referrals or longer-term management of patients? Please specify any restrictions imposed.

Paediatric Cardiology, neurology, acute paediatrics service is managed under Mid, South and Essex (SUFHT).

7. If no specialist PoTS services are in place within your Trust, do you reject referrals (back to referring GP), accept referrals under general acute services e.g., cardiology / neurology (please specify) or refer on to a known specialist service elsewhere? (please specify where).

Paediatric Cardiology, neurology, acute paediatrics service is managed under Mid, South and Essex (SUFHT) with long-term management.

8. How is activity coded for adult and paediatric patients with a diagnosis of PoTS attending for a first or follow up outpatient appointment or admitted to inpatient care?

Paediatric Cardiology, neurology, acute paediatrics service is managed under Mid, South and Essex (SUFHT).

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### Publication Scheme:

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT's Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link <https://eput.nhs.uk>