

Reference: FOI 31113 BUCKS 14Y

Subject: Axial Spondyloarthritis Services

I can confirm that the CCG does not hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
Recognition and Referral	
<p>1. Does your CCG have a specified pathway from primary care to secondary care for inflammatory back pain in place? Please select one of the following response options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • No 	<p>No; however we have an inflammatory back pain proforma (similar to the RA proforma) which should be used to allow urgent referral.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you answered ‘yes’, please give details of the pathway and, if applicable, arrangements in place to raise awareness in primary care 	<p>Not applicable</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If neither of the above response options apply to you, please provide more information on your local arrangements 	<p>There is an early inflammatory arthropathy (EIA) pathway for suspected RA. There are guidelines for management of SPA, but not a dedicated pathway</p>
Diagnosis in specialist care settings	

<p>2. What is the average current waiting time to diagnosis for a patient referred with inflammatory back pain?</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1133 295 1496 343">Option</th> <th data-bbox="1505 295 2074 343">Please tick here (one option only)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 349 1496 397">Less than 1 month</td> <td data-bbox="1505 349 2074 397"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 403 1496 451">1 – 2 months</td> <td data-bbox="1505 403 2074 451">x</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 458 1496 505">2 – 3 months</td> <td data-bbox="1505 458 2074 505"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 512 1496 560">3 – 4 months</td> <td data-bbox="1505 512 2074 560"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 566 1496 614">4 – 5 months</td> <td data-bbox="1505 566 2074 614"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 620 1496 668">5 – 6 months</td> <td data-bbox="1505 620 2074 668"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 675 1496 722">6 – 12 months</td> <td data-bbox="1505 675 2074 722"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 729 1496 777">More than 12 months</td> <td data-bbox="1505 729 2074 777"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Option	Please tick here (one option only)	Less than 1 month		1 – 2 months	x	2 – 3 months		3 – 4 months		4 – 5 months		5 – 6 months		6 – 12 months		More than 12 months	
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<p>3. Are patients with suspected axial SpA (AS) routinely referred for a full spinal MRI? Please select one of the following response options</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1133 748 1321 796">Option</th> <th data-bbox="1330 748 2074 796">Please tick here (one option only)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 802 1321 850">Yes</td> <td data-bbox="1330 802 2074 850"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 857 1321 904">No</td> <td data-bbox="1330 857 2074 904">x</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Option	Please tick here (one option only)	Yes		No	x												
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No	x																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If neither of the above response options apply to you, please provide more information on your local arrangements 	<p>As agreed with Rheumatology, we have a specific MRI protocol for suspected SPA. That includes MRI Tx/Lx and SIJ with specific sequences, to match the MRI protocol of the BHT</p>																		
<p>Information and Support</p>																			

<p>4. How do you ensure patients are given information and support following their diagnosis? Please select whichever response options apply</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1133 295 1615 368">Option</th> <th data-bbox="1624 295 2089 368">Please tick here (multiple responses if applicable)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 375 1615 416">Written information</td> <td data-bbox="1624 375 2089 416">x</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 422 1615 464">Verbal information</td> <td data-bbox="1624 422 2089 464">x</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 470 1615 512">Access to a helpline</td> <td data-bbox="1624 470 2089 512">x</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 518 1615 560">Named contact in the team</td> <td data-bbox="1624 518 2089 560"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 566 1615 608">Group educational sessions</td> <td data-bbox="1624 566 2089 608">x</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 614 1615 655">Other (please provide details)</td> <td data-bbox="1624 614 2089 655"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Option	Please tick here (multiple responses if applicable)	Written information	x	Verbal information	x	Access to a helpline	x	Named contact in the team		Group educational sessions	x	Other (please provide details)	
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<p>Pharmacological management of axial SpA (AS)</p>															
<p>5. What guidance are patients with axial SpA (AS) given when deciding whether to access biologic treatment? Please provide details of arrangements in your local area</p>	<p>Patients are assessed in a nurse led biologics clinic where risks and benefits of biologic treatments are discussed.</p>														
<p>6. Bearing in mind the NICE anti TNF guidance for ankylosing spondylitis (TA383) states that, ‘Treatment with another anti TNF is recommended for people who cannot tolerate, or whose disease has not responded to, treatment with the first TNF-alpha inhibitor, or whose disease has stopped responding after an initial response’, after failure with one biologic, how many other biologics will your commissioners fund a patient with axial SpA (AS) to try, including IL 17As? Please select one of the following response options</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1133 1018 1361 1059">Option</th> <th data-bbox="1370 1018 2089 1059">Please tick here (one option only)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 1066 1361 1107">None</td> <td data-bbox="1370 1066 2089 1107"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 1114 1361 1155">1</td> <td data-bbox="1370 1114 2089 1155"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 1161 1361 1203">2</td> <td data-bbox="1370 1161 2089 1203"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1133 1209 1361 1251">3 or more</td> <td data-bbox="1370 1209 2089 1251">x</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Option	Please tick here (one option only)	None		1		2		3 or more	x				
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Non-pharmacological management of axial SpA							
7. What proportion of adults with axial SpA (AS) are referred to a specialist physiotherapist for a structured exercise programme within your local area when first diagnosed? Please provide details	All. Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust has a specialist physiotherapy led AS clinic which runs parallel to the rheumatologist clinic.						
8. What percentage of patients with axial SpA (AS) have a written care plan to support them with a flare? Please provide details	The CCG does not hold this information. Please redirect this element of your request to our provider, Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust , as they may be able to provide the information requested.						
Organisation of care							
9. Does the Trust have a dedicated axial SpA (AS) clinic? Please select one of the following response options	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Option</th> <th>Please tick here (one option only)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Option	Please tick here (one option only)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
No	<input type="checkbox"/>						
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Mental health and well being							

<p>10. Are axial SpA (AS) patients under the care of a rheumatologist offered access to psychological services? Please select one of the following response options</p>	<p>Option</p>	<p>Please tick here (one option only)</p>
	<p>Yes</p>	<p>x</p>
	<p>No</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you ticked 'yes', please specify the services on offer 	<p>Rheumatology has access to clinical psychologist review for its patients if clinically indicated.</p>	

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 10 June 2019, and has been authorised for release by Robert Majilton, Deputy Chief Officer and Director of Sustainability & Transformation for NHS Buckinghamshire CCG.