

Freedom of Information Act 2000

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request

Date Request Received: 22nd July 2025

FOI Ref No 29654

Requested Information:

Service Overview

1. Does your Pain Management Team provide:
 - a) Inpatient acute pain services
 - b) Chronic pain services
 - c) Both acute and chronic pain services under one team

Inpatient Acute Pain Service (if applicable)

If your Trust provides an **inpatient acute pain service**, please respond to the following:

2. **Hospital Coverage:**
 - a) How many hospital beds are covered by the inpatient acute pain team?
3. **Service Hours:**
 - a) What are the standard working hours of the inpatient acute pain team (e.g. Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm)?
4. **Team Structure:**
 - a) Please provide a breakdown of the team structure, including the roles and grades/bandings of:
 - o Consultants
 - o Specialist Nurses
 - o Lead Nurse (if applicable)
 - o Healthcare Assistants (HCAs)
 - o Allied Health Professionals
5. **Referral Criteria and Process:**
 - a) What are the referral criteria for a patient to be seen by the inpatient acute pain team?
 - b) Is an electronic referral system used? If so, which system?
6. **Education and Training:**
 - a) Does the inpatient acute pain team deliver any formal education or teaching programmes (e.g. for junior doctors, nurses, or other staff)?
 - b) If yes, please outline the type and frequency of these sessions.
7. **Data Collection and Audit:**
 - a) What types of data collection or audits are conducted by the inpatient acute pain team (e.g. patient outcomes, service activity, satisfaction)?
 - b) How is this information shared or reported within the Trust (e.g. internal governance meetings, quality improvement programmes)?

Response:

Service Overview

1. Does your Pain Management Team provide:
 - a) Inpatient acute pain services:
 - **Yes**
 - b) Chronic pain services:
 - **Yes**
 - c) Both acute and chronic pain services under one team:
 - Yes**

Inpatient Acute Pain Service (if applicable)

If your Trust provides an **inpatient acute pain service**, please respond to the following:

2. **Hospital Coverage:**
 - a) How many hospital beds are covered by the inpatient acute pain team?
 - **653, plus any escalation beds**
3. **Service Hours:**
 - a) What are the standard working hours of the inpatient acute pain team (e.g. Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm)?
 - **Monday – Friday 08:00 – 18:00**
4. **Team Structure:**
 - a) Please provide a breakdown of the team structure, including the roles and grades/bandings of:
 - **Consultants: 4 providing 2 consultant led teaching ward rounds per week**
 - **Specialist Nurses: 4 covering inpatient reviews for acute and chronic pain problems, education, audit, clinical guidelines**
 - **Lead Nurse (if applicable): 2 which cover inpatient nurse support and manage the outpatient department including clinical work**
 - **Healthcare Assistants (HCAs): nil**
 - **Allied Health Professionals: nil**
5. **Referral Criteria and Process:**
 - a) What are the referral criteria for a patient to be seen by the inpatient acute pain team?
 - **All investigations have been completed to exclude medical/surgical causes which need intervention.**
 - **Patients' usual analgesia should have been prescribed, simple analgesia prescribed and evaluated, persistent pain score >2/moderate despite optimising all analgesia should be referred.**
 - **Chest wall injury**
 - **Post op: enhanced analgesic techniques such as Epidural/PCA/Local anaesthetic infusion.**
 - b) Is an electronic referral system used? If so, which system?
 - **Yes, Maxims**

6. Education and Training:

- a) Does the inpatient acute pain team deliver any formal education or teaching programmes (e.g. for junior doctors, nurses, or other staff)?
- **Yes**
- b) If yes, please outline the type and frequency of these sessions.
- **Pain assessment and management for Preceptees (monthly)**
 - **Nursing associates Y1 and Y2 (twice per year each),**
 - **Student nurses (when requested),**
 - **HEAD346 (annually).**
 - **Analgesic devices monthly for all suitably trained staff.**

7. Data Collection and Audit:

- a) What types of data collection or audits are conducted by the inpatient acute pain team (e.g. patient outcomes, service activity, satisfaction)?
- **Patient safety such as adherence to guidelines**
 - **Service improvement**
 - **Service activity**
 - **Patient outcomes**
 - **Take part in national audits if appropriate.**
- b) How is this information shared or reported within the Trust (e.g. internal governance meetings, quality improvement programmes)?
- **Shared at department MDT, internal governance meetings and during formal and informal educations sessions.**

Attachment(s):

No Attachment(s)

Date Response sent: 11th August 2025