Freedom of information request 9666

We are requesting specific information regarding psychological support available for people living with HIV.

Please provide information held by the Trust or Health Board as at the date of this request. We are requesting recorded information only.

For the purposes of this request:

- "HIV service" means the service or services responsible for providing specialist outpatient HIV care to adults.
- "Psychological support" includes identification or assessment of psychological need, psychological interventions, specialist psychological therapies, neuropsychological support, mental health pathways, and HIV peer support. More information regarding psychological support services for people living with HIV, national standards and service specifications can be found in the British HIV Association's Standards of Psychological Support for Adults Living with HIV.

Where information is held separately by more than one HIV clinic or service, please provide separate responses where reasonably practicable. If information is not held, please state "not held". If it is held only in part, please provide the information that is held.

1. **Name of your Trust or Health Board?**
   Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust

2. **Does the HIV service have a named or designated role with recorded responsibility for overseeing psychological support for adults living with HIV?**
   If yes, please provide:
   a. the job title
   b. the relevant department or service;
   c. whether the post forms part of the HIV multidisciplinary team; and
   d. the funded whole-time equivalent allocated specifically to this responsibility, if recorded.
   No.
   We do not have a designated role, but the Clinical Psychology (Health) Department is funded to provide 0.2WTE psychological support (outpatient assessment/therapies) for adults in the Sexual Health service, which includes those living with HIV.
   The psychology provision is not part of the HIV multi-disciplinary team.
   The psychology provision is delivered by a combination of clinical psychologists, a CBT therapist and a counsellor.

3. **Does the HIV service have access to funded psychological practitioner capacity dedicated wholly or partly to people living with HIV?**

If yes, please provide, where held:

a. the profession(s) or job title(s);
b. the funded whole-time equivalent dedicated to HIV care.

See answer to question 2, above

4. **Using the table below, please indicate which services for people living with HIV are available within your Trust/Health Board, the delivery route for each service (using the codes provided below), whether the service is commissioned specifically for people living with HIV, and whether the service uses Patient-Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs).**

Type of support	Available?	Delivery route (Select all applicable codes)	Commissioned specifically for people living with HIV?	PROMs used?
Psychological needs identification or assessment	Yes	Select code	No	Yes
Low-intensity psychological interventions	Yes	Select code	No	Yes
Specialist psychological practitioners (e.g. clinical psychologists, counselling psychologists, psychotherapists)	Yes	Select code	No	Yes
Specialist psychological therapies	Yes	Select code	No	Yes
Neuropsychological assessment or support	Yes	Select code	No	Yes
Pathway for severe and enduring mental illness	No			
HIV peer support	No			
Online psychological support services	No			
Other				

Delivery-route codes:

- *A: Provided within the HIV service*
- *B: Referred to another NHS service*
- *C: Provided by a commissioned HIV-specific VCSE organisation*
- *D: Provided by a commissioned non-HIV-specific VCSE organisation*

- *E: Provided by a commissioned independent or private provider*
- *F: Information not held*

5. **Does the Trust or Health Board hold a current HIV training programme, training requirement, competency framework or guidance for staff delivering psychological or mental health support to people living with HIV?**
   If yes, please provide a copy or web link, or state:
   a. the title of the training or document;
   b. the staff groups to which it applies; and
   c. whether completion is mandatory or optional.

   Answered by Sexual Health

6. **For the calendar year 1 January to 31 December 2025, please provide the following recorded figures, where held:**

a. the total number of people recorded as receiving HIV care;

b. the number who received a recorded psychological-needs identification, screening or assessment;

c. the number identified through that process as requiring or potentially benefiting from psychological support; and

d. the number referred by the HIV service for psychological support.

If the Trust or Health Board already holds percentages corresponding to these figures, please also provide them. We are not asking the organisation to calculate percentages that it does not already hold.

Please also see Sexual Health. However, for psychology…

We work to financial year rather than calendar year. In the 2025/26 financial year we (clinical psychology) received 1 referral from the sexual health service for a patient living with HIV. They were assessed, added to our routine waiting list, and provided with a psychological intervention/support.

7. **For referrals made during 2025, please provide any recorded information held on waiting time, in calendar days, from the date of referral to the first attended psychological-support appointment.**

Where held, please provide:

a. mean waiting time;

b. median waiting time;

c. the number of referrals included in the calculation; and

d. the definition of waiting time used, and reporting period used.

We are not asking the Trust or Health Board to calculate a mean or median if it does not already hold that information.

Our average waiting times from referral to assessment (first attended psychological support appointment) are 3-4 weeks.

Our average waiting times from assessment to treatment are 8-14 weeks.

8. **Since 1 January 2020, has the HIV service completed an audit, self-assessment, service review, gap analysis or quality-improvement exercise that explicitly assessed provision against either of the following standards?**

a. BHIVA Standards of Psychological Support for Adults Living with HIV (either the 2011 Standards or the updated 2025 Standards)
b. Psychological Management of Children and Young People Living with HIV: Standards for Care

For each relevant exercise completed, please provide:

a. its title and completion date;

b. which standard was used;

c. a copy of the final report, action plan or executive summary; or, if already published, a web link; and

d. the recorded status of actions arising from it, where held.

answered by the Sexual Health service.