

Update on Barts Health and Omnes Healthcare Community Ultrasound Diagnostic Referral Pathway in Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest

Omnes Healthcare – Community Ultrasound Service

As you may be aware, Omnes Healthcare has been commissioned by North East London Integrated Care Board to provide community ultrasound service in Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest from April 2024. The purpose of this service is to enable GPs and patients to have quick access to ultrasound services near their homes and to enable Barts Health NHS Trust to focus on more critical ultrasound requests. **The pathway is for GPs to refer directly to Omnes healthcare so patients can be seen between one to four weeks rather than waiting for over eight weeks via the current pathway.**

Updates on Barts Hospital and Omnes Healthcare Ultrasound referral pathway

Omnes Healthcare is currently collaborating with Barts Health to clear the existing GP referral backlog. To assist us, GPs are encouraged to refer non-complex ultrasound directly to Omnes Healthcare. Patients will have their scans done in the community and reports sent directly to the respective

GPs. As part of the collaboration and to avoid the additional administrative process of Barts Health forwarding GP Ultrasound referrals to Omnes Healthcare, GP referrals within Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest should be sent directly to Omnes Healthcare. This can be via the generic service email address: omneshealthcare.tnw@nhs.net or via the electronic referral service (eRS).

INCLUSION CRITERIA

- Patient age range 18 and above
- Routine GP ultrasound scans
- General abdomen including assessment of the aorta, biliary tract, gallbladder, inferior vena cava, kidneys, liver, pancreas, retroperitoneum, spleen, renal and bladder
- Abdominal -wall, groin, hernia
- Gynaecology - including transabdominal and transvaginal.
- Prostate, scrotal, testicular scans
- Musculoskeletal (MSK).

**Redirection of GP
Ultrasound
Referrals from
Barts Hospital to
Omnes Healthcare
Community
Service**

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- Patients not registered to a GP practice in Tower Hamlets, Newham or Waltham Forest or online providers (i.e. GP at hand) in these areas
- Patients without a valid NHS number
- Cancer - any patient with suspected cancer should be referred through the hospital two weeks wait referral pathway
- Patients requiring an ultrasound guided procedure
- Patients requiring obstetric care
- Superficial masses or lumps in the neck and axilla
- Neck and thyroid
- Scalp
- Urgent testes
- Transport patient - wheelchair and non-weight bearing patients.

Just a reminder

- The waiting time is between one to four weeks
- Reports sent to referrer within five working days
- Patients are seen close to home and in their community
- Patients can choose to attend appointments from multiple sites in Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest
- Scan images can be sent via the Image Exchange Portal (IEP) following a request.

Contacting Omnes Healthcare

For patients queries:

Contact Omnes on: ☎ 020 3780 1761 or 020 3176 6365 or via email at omneshealthcare.tnw@nhs.net

Contact Barts Health NHS Trust on: ☎ 02035940104

For escalations and service-related queries, please contact:

Omnes Healthcare General Manager – Patricia Williams at patricia.williams21@nhs.net
Mobile:07935217947

and

Barts Hospital General Manager for Ultrasound – Archie Emmerton-Palmer at archie.emmerton-palmer@nhs.net