

Reference: FOI.ICB-2627/235

Subject: Menopause and Treatment

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE								
Please provide the following information for each of the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24, and 2024/25 (or the most recent 12-month period available).									
HRT PRESCRIBING 1. Total number of HRT prescription items dispensed to patients registered with GP practices in your area, broken down by year.	This information is in the public domain via Open Prescribing. See: https://openprescribing.net/analyse/#org=CCG&orgIds=15C&numIds=6.4.1.1&denom=nothing&selectedTab=chart The requester can download the csv and access the data per month over the time period requested.								
REFERRAL AND ACCESS 2. Number of patients referred by a GP for specialist input on menopause symptoms (to any service – gynaecology, endocrinology, or a dedicated menopause clinic if one exists). 3. Of those referrals, the number that were declined, redirected back to the GP, or resulted in no specialist appointment being offered, and the reasons recorded where available.	2. The following table shows the number of appointments following GP referral into menopause clinics. <table> <thead> <tr> <th>Financial Year</th><th>Volume</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>22/23</td><td>433</td></tr> <tr> <td>23/24</td><td>425</td></tr> <tr> <td>24/25</td><td>497</td></tr> </tbody> </table> 3. The ICB does not hold declined referral data, we would suggest contacting the providers of these services.	Financial Year	Volume	22/23	433	23/24	425	24/25	497
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4. Average and longest waiting time from referral to first specialist appointment, for any service handling menopause-related referrals. 5. Whether your ICB/Trust commissions any dedicated menopause service or clinic. If yes, please state when it opened, and if any equivalent service has closed in the period covered by this request.	4. The waiting time data available to the ICB is at specialty level, not at clinic level. 5. Information can be found on Remedy Referral - Menopause (Remedy BNSSG ICB). We advise you to contact Bristol NHS Foundation Trust (BFT) directly for more information, as follows: FreedomOfInfo@uhbw.nhs.uk and FOIArequests@nbt.nhs.uk
LOCAL GUIDANCE 6. Any locally issued guidance, referral criteria, or prescribing thresholds given to GPs regarding when to refer a menopause patient for specialist input, or when to prescribe HRT/testosterone versus managing in primary care alone.	Menopause (Remedy BNSSG ICB) Prescribing guidance: bnssg-hrt-pathway-update-dec24-v2.pdf

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 18 September 2026 and has been approved for release by Dr Aananthakrishnan Raghuram, Chief Clinical Leadership and Service Delivery Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.