



**East London**  
NHS Foundation Trust  
**Information Governance**  
Robert Dolan House  
9 Alie Street  
London  
E1 8DE

**Email** [elft.foi@nhs.net](mailto:elft.foi@nhs.net)  
**Website:** <https://www.elft.nhs.uk>

4 July 2025

**Our reference: FOI DA6107**

I am responding to your request for information received 13 June 2025 and clarified on 16 June. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Coordinator

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113  
Web: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

**Please note that the data supplied is not allowed to be re-used and/or published without the explicit consent of East London NHS Foundation Trust. Please contact the signatory to request permission if this is your intention**



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**Chief Executive Officer:** Lorraine Sunduza  
**Chair:** Eileen Taylor

**Request:**

**Question 1:** I would be grateful if you could send the Trust's most recent planning document(s) for the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's Disease including implementation of lumbar punctures (CSF) and Blood-based Biomarker testing. Please include planning documents that cover the entire Trust and specific department plans, such as neurology, psychiatry, care of the elderly, pathology or memory clinic teams.

**Clarification:** I am referring to the most recent document that is a strategic or operational plan for the Trust.

**Answer:** The Trust does not have a strategic or operational planning document.

**Question 2:** How many patients were diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease (ICD-10 codes = G30, G30.1, G30.8, G30.9, F00, F00.1, F00.2 or F00.9) in your Trust in the last 12-month period for which data are available?

**Answer:** Please see table below

	Total number of patients
Alzheimer's Disease	1161

**Question 3:** How many patients were diagnosed with Mild Cognitive Impairment and / or Mild Dementia due to Alzheimer's Disease (ICD-10 codes = G31.84, G30.1, or MMSE scores = 21 to 24) in your Trust in the last 12-month period for which data are available?

**Answer:** Please see table below

	Number of patients
Mild cognitive impairment (ICD-10 = G31.84)	0
Early onset Alzheimer's Disease (ICD-10 = G30.1)	12
Mild cognitive impairment (Mini-mental State Examination MMSE = 21 to 24)	Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:  <i>Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—</i> <i>(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and</i> <i>(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.</i>
Mild cognitive impairment (other sources of definition)	
	East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.



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**Question 4: Where, if at all, does the Trust carry out lumbar punctures (cerebrospinal fluid) for diagnosing patients with Alzheimer’s Disease?**

Answer: Please see table below

	<b>Location</b>
Lumbar punctures carried out within the Trust itself	The Trust has reviewed your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.
Lumbar punctures referred elsewhere and carried out external to the Trust	Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:
Trust does not carry out lumbar punctures to diagnose Alzheimer’s Disease	<p><i>Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—</i></p> <p><i>(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and</i></p> <p><i>(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.</i></p> <p>East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide lumbar puncture services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.</p>

**Question 5: Please provide a list of the full names of other Trusts or other organisations to which the Trust refers patients for lumbar punctures in the diagnosis of Alzheimer’s Disease.**

Answer: East London refers patients to Barts and Queen’s Square UCL – Bedfordshire and Luton refer patients to the Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge for review in their memory clinic and to see if they would consider lumbar puncture for CSF biomarkers from Bedfordshire, where as South Bedford and Luton tends to refer patients to the Queen's Square at UCL.

**Question 6: What is the average waiting time for a patient to get an appointment for a lumbar puncture to test for a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s Disease?**

Answer: Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—*

*(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and*

*(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide lumbar puncture services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.



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**Question 7: How many lumbar punctures to test for Alzheimer's Disease took place in the last 3-month period for which data are available?**

Answer: Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—  
(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and  
(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide lumbar puncture services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

**Question 8: How many Blood-based Biomarker (BBBM) tests from Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) to test for Alzheimer's Disease were conducted in the last 3-month period for which data are available?**

**Please provide a list of the full names of other Trusts or other organisations, to which the Trust refers Blood-based Biomarker tests from cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) for pathology in the diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease.**

Answer: Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—  
(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and  
(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not receive or conduct blood test services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

**Question 9: Where, if at all, does the Trust carry out Blood-based Biomarker (BBBM) tests from Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) for diagnosing patients with Alzheimer's Disease?**

Answer: The Trust does not currently carry out Blood-based Biomarker (BBBM) tests from Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) for diagnosing patients with Alzheimer's Disease.

**Question 10: Please provide a list of the full names of other Trusts or other organisations, to which the Trust refers Blood-based Biomarker tests from cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) for pathology in the diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease.**

Answer: Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—  
(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and  
(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not currently refer Blood-based Biomarker tests from cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) for pathology in the diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease. and is therefore unable to provide a response.



**Question 11: What is the average waiting time for pathology results to come back from Blood-based Biomarker tests?**

Answer: Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

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*(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and*  
*(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.

**Question 12: To what extent are there plans for service improvement of diagnosing Alzheimer’s Disease?**

Answer: Please see table below

	Yes / No
Implementation of plans has started	Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:  <i>Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—</i> <i>(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and</i> <i>(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.</i>
A plan exists and implementation has not started	
A plan is being developed	
There is no plan	
Other – please state	
	East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.

**Question 13: Are the plans for service improvement of diagnosing Alzheimer’s Disease related to:**

Answer: Please see table below

	Yes / No
Cognitive assessment services	Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:  <i>Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—</i> <i>(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and</i> <i>(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.</i>
Biomarker services	
None / neither	



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**Question 14: Which of the following services does the Trust have in place in preparation for increased service delivery for Alzheimer’s Disease?**

Answer: Please see table below

	Related to administration of lumbar punctures Yes / No	Related to Blood-based Biomarker testing Yes / No
Budget	Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:  <i>Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—</i> <i>(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and</i> <i>(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.</i>	
People		
Training		
Clinic space / capacity		
Governance arrangements		



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