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24<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Our reference: FOI DA6507**

We are responding to your request for information received 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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

Yours sincerely,

FOI Team

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)

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We promise to work together creatively to: learn 'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality of life and continuously improve our services.  
**We care . We respect . We are inclusive**

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

**Request:**

**Alternative codes for FND: psychogenic, conversion, stress-induced, functional, pseudoseizure, dissociative, non-organic, psychosomatic, hysterical, psychological cause.**

**Question 1: Does the liaison psychiatry service accept referrals for patients diagnosed with suspected or confirmed Functional Neurological Disorder (FND)?**

- a. No
- b. Yes

**Answer:** Yes

**Question 2: Are there formal exclusion criteria that would prevent patients with FND from being assessed by liaison psychiatry?**

- a. No
  - b. Yes
- What are the criteria?**

**Answer:** **Luton and Bedfordshire services**

No. The only exclusion criterion would be the patient declining the offer to see the mental health team (the assessment has to be voluntary in the first instance- MHA is used very rarely).

We also ask that a formal diagnosis has been made by Neurology prior to us seeing but this is not an absolute exclusion criterion, as long as the patient agrees with a referral to us.

**East London services**

Main exclusion criteria would be the lack of a diagnosis by Neurology i.e. Psychiatry is the wrong speciality to make the diagnosis, but can support with the treatment

**Question 3: Are there inclusion criteria within FND?**

- a. No
  - b. Yes
- What are the criteria?**

**Answer:** No we have no specific inclusion criteria for FND. In essence we would see anyone with suspected FND unless they fell into the exclusion criteria

**Question 4: Where are patients with FND assessed?**

- a. Inpatient wards
- b. Emergency departments
- c. Outpatient settings
- d. A mixture, please detail:
- e. Not assessed at all

**Answer:** Inpatient and emergency departments

**Question 5: Is there a standardised assessment tool you use for patients with suspected or confirmed FND?**

- a. No
- b. Yes

**Answer:** No



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**Question 6: Do you have a policy, guideline or dedicated pathway for patients with suspected or confirmed FND?**

- a. No
- b. Yes

Answer No

**Question 7: Between January 2024-December 2025, how many patients with a suspected or confirmed FND were referred to liaison psychiatry? \***

- a.
- b. Data not held

Answer Data not held

**Question 8: Between January 2024-December 2025, how many patients with a suspected or confirmed FND were accepted by liaison psychiatry? \***

- a.
- b. Data not held

Answer Data not held

**Question 9: If FND patients are not seen by the liaison psychiatry team, are they referred to other services for assessment of their mental health?**

Answer No. Not upon our advice if we haven't seen them. If we haven't seen them (ie because we didn't have a chance due to workload and they were discharged from the ward), we would advise the GP to consider referring to either primary care liaison or the CMHT.

**Question 10: Does the liaison psychiatry unit provide training to its staff on FND? If yes, please specify.**

- a. No
  - b. Yes
- Please specify:

Answer **Luton and Bedfordshire services**

Not formal training but opportunistic discussions based on clinical cases.

**East London services**

Yes, it forms part of our monthly teaching programme where we invite external speakers to teach staff

**Question 11: Is your liaison psychiatry service commissioned to see patients with FND?**

Answer **Luton and Bedfordshire services**

Not specifically but those patients would come anyway under the umbrella of "inpatients with a possible mental health need".

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Yes



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