

**Reference:** FOI.ICB-2324/048

**Subject:** HIFU and Prostate Cancer Referrals

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

QUESTION	RESPONSE
I am writing to ask for clarification on the two below points given the recent publication of interventional procedures guidance 756 by NICE on April 5, 2023.	
1) Is focal therapy using high-intensity focused ultrasound available as treatment for localised prostate cancer in your region, if so where?	This is not available in the NHS in the BNSSG system.
2) If not, is it possible for patients who are deemed clinically suitable to have referral outside your region, and will their treatment cost be covered in full at a hospital outside the region where this treatment is offered?	This is not commissioned by the ICB, so treatment costs would not be covered.  There are instances where interventions not routinely funded can be requested via an Exceptional Funding Request (EFR). Details of how and when this applies can be found here:  <a data-bbox="1093 1166 2114 1308" href="https://bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/about-us/governance/interventions-not-normally-funded-innf/exceptional-funding/#:~:text=An%20Exceptional%20Funding%20Request%20(EFR,we%20do%20not%20routinely%20fund.">https://bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/about-us/governance/interventions-not-normally-funded-innf/exceptional-funding/#:~:text=An%20Exceptional%20Funding%20Request%20(EFR,we%20do%20not%20routinely%20fund.</a>

***The information provided in this response is accurate as of 17 May 2023 and has been approved for release by Lisa Manson, Director of Performance and Delivery for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.***