

Department of Radiology, Diagnostic & Therapy Division

Bristol Royal Infirmary

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Date: 25/07/2013

Dear Dr

Ref: Request of sinus Xray/CT sinuses.

As you probably know the Head and Neck service has recently been centralised to UH Bristol.

On discussion with the ENT surgeons it is felt that if patient's have failed medical therapy for sinus disease they should initially be referred for an ENT outpatient appointment where they can undergo specialist examination and nasendoscopy.

Only a small number of patients will require sinus surgery and therefore CT sinuses for surgical planning. Plain films of the sinuses are no longer used by the ENT surgeons for either acute or chronic sinusitis. They are insensitive for the detection of relevant pathology and may be dangerously misleading.

We are therefore no longer offering direct access to plain film sinuses or CT sinuses to Primary care. If your patient has ongoing sinus problems could you therefore arrange an outpatient ENT review in the first instance.

Regards

Dr M Williams/ Dr J Kabala/ Dr S Armstrong.

Consultant Head and Neck Radiologists.

UH Bristol