Cyflwynwyd yr ymateb i ymgynghoriad y <u>Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol</u> ar <u>Canserau gynaecolegol</u>

This response was submitted to the <u>Health and Social Care Committee</u> consultation on <u>Gynaecological Cancers</u>

GC 18a: Ymateb gan: Judith Major (gwybodaeth ychwanegol) Response from: Judith Major (additional information)



Further to my last statement I would like to take this opportunity to update you as to the situation to date.

On 29th of June 2023 I paid to have an ultrasound and the findings were that the scan looked suspicious with endometrium measuring 12mm with cystic areas and some vascularity.

I met with my consultant who explained the situation to me and advised me that I needed an urgent hysteroscopy and endometrial biopsy to confirm if the area is inflamed or that I have cancer of the womb. If there is cancer, then they will need to investigate further with an MRI if the cancer has spread out of the womb area.

My consultant advised me that he could refer me back to the NHS for this procedure but would not be able to give me a time when this procedure could be done.

As I have previous history of cancer and am now experiencing regular bleeding that for my own health and wellbeing the only option, I have is to go private.

I am now at the eighth week of being referred into the NHS system for USC and still have not received any correspondence under the NHS system and if as I am expecting it to be cancer and hopefully contained to the womb, I feel very frustrated and upset that basically I have had to pay privately to be told I have cancer.

This is a really sad state of affairs and appreciate that I am not the only woman who is sadly experiencing this service from the NHS.

I am very fortunate that I have had excellent support from my colleagues in work and am able to speak freely about it, whilst at home things are very different as my husband is struggling to accept the potential pathway I am on as his first wife sadly died of cancer, and he is reflecting on that time of his life.

I am angry with the situation that I find myself in with lack of support and direction from the NHS, with no reassurances when I will be seen and to be honest, I feel that I am just a name on a list and not that important.

This week has been difficult with the media celebrating NHS 75th birthday, and I have wanted to speak out on social media about how I feel but accept that this is not a professional way to behave, and trust that by submitting my experience to date that people will listen, review and look at ways to improve, not just for me but for all of the other women who are in my position.

I now have a private appointment on 28th July for the hysteroscopy and endometrial biopsy and am concerned as any woman would feel.

I worked for the public sector for 33 years and was held to account under the Victims Code of Practice, ensuring that every Victim of crime was kept updated in relation to their crime and when officers/staff didn't comply then they had failed to comply and more importantly had failed the Victim.

Reflecting where I am today, I do feel a Victim of the NHS service in that my GP Practice referred me as USC, Cwm Taff Morganwg have me on the system as a USC, yet I have not received one phone call updating me of the situation or even asking me "how are you". Surely there are staff within the

NHS who could make a "keep in contact call", whether it be a member of the Admin team in your local surgery or in the hospital"

I accept it is about time and resources for someone to do this but Police Officers and staff have to update victims during the investigation until closure, so surely the NHS should have a similar system in place updating "patients" of the current situation and potential waiting time, as for many people , like me my symptoms have changed .