



Department
of Health &
Social Care

*Ashley Dalton MP
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
for Public Health and Prevention*

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14 March 2025

Thank you for your correspondence of 17 February about postural tachycardia syndrome (PoTS).

I was sorry to read of your constituent's ill health and of the experience described.

I would like to assure you that improving health outcomes for people who live with long-term conditions, including PoTS, is a key part of the Government's mission to build an NHS that is fit for the future.

We recognise that PoTS is a complex condition, with a range of symptoms that, in the worst cases, can be substantially incapacitating. The Government acknowledges that people living with the condition can face challenges with accessing diagnosis and treatment.

In England, integrated care boards (ICBs) are responsible for many of the treatment services for patients with PoTS. ICBs have a statutory responsibility to commission services that meet the needs of their local population. It is their responsibility, working with clinicians, service users and patient groups, to ensure that services meet their local population's needs.

I am aware that there is a lack of awareness and understanding of PoTS among healthcare professionals and the wider public, and that many patients with PoTS have fallen through the gap between cardiology and neurology services. To improve awareness of PoTS among healthcare professionals, in particular GPs, the Royal College of General Practitioners provides training on PoTS as part of its Syncope toolkit, which is available at elearning.rcgp.org.uk/mod/book/view.php?id=12386.

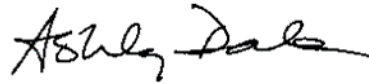
The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) also provides healthcare professionals with guidance on PoTS as part of its clinical knowledge summaries (CKSs), which are readily accessible summaries of the current evidence and advice on best practice in relation to a number of health topics. In the CKS on blackout or syncope, which was updated in November 2023, GPs are advised to investigate symptoms to ensure that the condition is not misdiagnosed. Following referral, patients are treated in NHS

cardiology and neurology services. Where more specialist advice is required, a referral will be made to an appropriate clinician. The CKS is available at cks.nice.org.uk/topics/blackouts-syncope/diagnosis/assessment.

Information for the public on PoTS is available on the NHS website, at www.nhs.uk/conditions/postural-tachycardia-syndrome.

I hope this reply is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ashley Dalton', with a stylized, cursive script.

ASHLEY DALTON