



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-504

Date: 1st November 2024

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 24th October 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) Retained Object

Q1 How many incidents of a retained foreign object post-procedure were logged by your Trust in the past five years?

By ‘retained foreign object post procedure’, I refer to retained guide wires, mouth props, surgical instruments, needles, vaginal swabs, throat packs, etc.

**Please break down this information by:
The retained item.**

The financial year, covering April 1st - March 31st (2019/20, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25). For the latter, please provide information from April 1st to September 30th 2024.

A1 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being <5
This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.

Financial Year & Type	Antibiotic-soaked packs	Cannula	Denture	Guide Wire	IVC	Plastic Condom	Swab
2019/20	<5	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021/22	0	<5	0	<5	<5	0	<5
2022/23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023/24	0	<5	0	0	0	<5	0

Financial Year & Type	Antibiotic-soaked packs	Cannula	Denture	Guide Wire	IVC	Plastic Condom	Swab
2024/25	0	0	<5	0	0	0	0

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

Yours,



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NHS Trust

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Head of Data, Security & Protection and Health Records
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