



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-099

Date: 5th June 2024

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 10th May 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Gynaecological procedure.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 Under the Freedom of Information Act, we would like to request information as detailed below from your Trust. We would appreciate all the information you can provide in answer to our questions. If you cannot complete any of the questions, please continue where possible with the remaining questions.

**Please provide the information in the prepared answer template attached.
If your Trust does not provide Hysteroscopies, please reply to this email stating this.**

Number of hysteroscopies

- 1. Please provide the total number of hysteroscopies performed at your Trust annually between 2013 and 2023 (inclusive). If annual breakdowns are not available, please provide the reporting period and numbers.**
 - a. Of those hysteroscopies, what is the total number per year (2013-2023 inclusive) conducted in an “outpatient setting” (not requiring overnight stay)?**
 - b. Of all hysteroscopies performed, how many were performed each year (2013-2023 inclusive) without General Anaesthetic?**
 - c. Of those performed without General Anaesthetic what is the number of hysteroscopies per year (2013-2023 inclusive) attempted that failed (the procedure was attempted but not completed, rather than a ‘did not attend/missed appointment’)**
 - d. What is the total number of ‘did not attend/missed appointments’ for all hysteroscopies per year (2013-2023 inclusive)?**

Hysteroscopy information delivery

- 1. Do you routinely provide patient information about hysteroscopy in advance of the procedure? Y/N**
- 2. For the following, please feel free to select multiple options if applicable:**
 - a. How is this information provided to the patient (via post, via email, in the waiting room, etc.)?**

- b. When is this information provided (i.e. at the hysteroscopy appointment, sent with their appointment letter, etc?)
- c. What format does the information come in (verbal, written, video, etc.,)?
- d. Please provide us with a copy of the standard patient information leaflet or give a link to your Hysteroscopy information

A1 I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in points a-d (Number of hysteroscopies) is not held centrally, but may be recorded in health records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

Hysteroscopy information delivery

- 1. Yes
- 2. For the following, please feel free to select multiple options if applicable:
 - a. It is via post, in the clinic consultation or waiting room.
 - b. At the first appointment when booked for a hysteroscopy or it is sent with their appointment letter.
 - c. verbal and written
 - d. attached.

*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,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records