

Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-555

Royal Stoke University Hospital  
Quality, Safety and Compliance Department  
Newcastle Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST4 6QG

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Email [foi@uhnm.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhnm.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 27<sup>th</sup> December 2019 (received into our office 30<sup>th</sup> December) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding tonsillectomy patients.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Does your Trust / hospital(s) offer Tonsillectomy Surgery which is undertaken in the Trust?**

**If the answer no, the FOI request ends here. Please just notify me that your Trust / hospital(s) does not undertake this surgery.**

**If yes, please answer the following questions:**

A1 Yes

**Q2 Do surgeons in your Trust / hospital(s) perform tonsillectomy surgery on children (under 16 years of age)?**

A2 Yes

**Q3 If the answer to 2 is 'yes', do they provide patients / parents of patients in this age group with an information sheet relating to their operation?**

A3 An information sheet is given to all parents of children undergoing tonsillectomy or adenotonsillectomy

**Q4 If the answer to 3 is 'yes' please, as well as completing these question, also send me a copy of the information sheet that is provided, even if it is only sometimes given to patients/parents.**

A4 The Trust has Patient Information Leaflets available for tonsillectomy surgery and are provided by EIDO Health and therefore not the property of UHNM. We therefore feel this information is exempt under section 21: *information reasonably accessible by other means*. This is because the information is available via the following link: <https://www.eidohealthcare.com/>

- Q5 Do surgeons in your Trust / hospital(s) perform tonsillectomy surgery on young adults and adults (16 years and over)?**
- A5 Yes
- Q6 If the answer to 5 is 'yes', do they provide patients in this age group with an information sheet relating to their operation?**
- A6 As answer 3
- Q7 If the answer to 6 is 'yes' please, as well as completing these question, also send me a copy of the information sheet that is provided, even if it is only sometimes given to patients (unless the same sheet given to both children/parents and to adult patients in which case please make that clear in your answer and just provide that sheet)**
- A7 As answer 4
- Q8 What advice is usually given to a) Children and b) Young Adults / Adult regarding diet immediately after tonsillectomy (i.e. for approximately the first week or so post-surgery)**
- A8 The FOI Act 2000 is for the release of information that is held/recorded and does not cover the opinions of persons regarding suppliers, systems or procedures, therefore this information is not held. However, every surgeon has their own preferences for dietary advice. There are no detailed dietary restrictions given to patients. It is advised to best to avoid hot, spicy or irritating foods otherwise no restrictions would apply.

\*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.

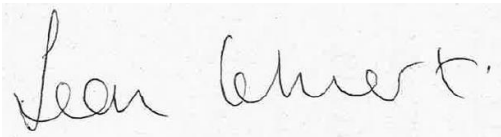
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and 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](http://www.ico.org.uk).

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



Jean Lehnert  
**Information Governance Manager**