



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-171

Date: 18th June 2024

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 7th June 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding foetal cardiac views

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 We are aware of the NHS England FASP 20 week scan guidance document. “There is no requirement to archive images of the foetal cardiac protocol views”. However, we are aware there is disparity amongst NHS hospital trusts nationally when congenital heart defects are not identified at this scan. We understand some hospital trusts don’t retain foetal cardiac images, some do, and some retain video clips, and some retain both. There doesn’t seem to be any consistency.

We have been advised by NHS England and the ICB’s that they do not hold the following information as it is “granular”. We have been advised to approach each of the acute Trusts.

Our questions are;

1. When congenital heart defects are not identified during screening at the 20 week foetal anomaly scan;

a) Does your Trust currently retain the foetal cardiac views?

b) Were foetal cardiac views retained in 2021 and 2022?

c) If views are currently retained, are these still images or video clips?

d) For how long has your Trust had this foetal cardiac view retention policy?

A1 See below:

- a) No
- b) No
- c) Not applicable
- d) 4 years

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

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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