

Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-406

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

Date: 16th October 2019

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 10th October 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Meningitis.

On the same day we contacted you via email as patients are only diagnosed upon discharge. Were you happy to receive the numbers of patients discharged during the time period as opposed to the admissions?

You replied via email with the following:

"Thank you for your timely response, I am more than happy to receive discharge numbers in place of admissions"

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 [REDACTED], I am conducting a health promotion campaign with a number of my peers, targeting Meningitis within the student population.

It would greatly aid the campaign if we were able to provide a reference as to why vaccination and early recognition is relevant within the student population.

As a result, I would like to request the following:

The number of admissions to the Royal Stoke Hospital due to meningococcal disease (or bacterial meningitis) in the years:

- 2016,
- 2017,
- 2018 in the age group 18-25 years old.

Apologies if this information is published (after extensive searching we have been unable to find the relevant detail), or if this falls beyond the scope of FOI requests.

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: Please see below.

Discharges used as clinical coding is applied on discharge

- 2016 = <5
- 2017 = <5
- 2018 = <5

*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.

Where the Trust owns the copyright in information provided, you may re-use the information in line with the conditions set out in the Open Government Licence v3 which is available at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>. Where information was created by third parties, you should contact them directly for permission to re-use the information.

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.

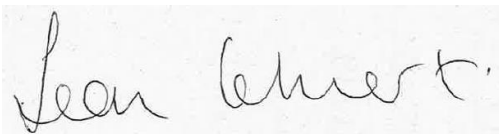
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

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

Yours,





**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

Jean Lehnert
Information Governance Manager

