



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-066

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024

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

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 25th April 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding GDM screening

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 I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the screening protocols and procedures for Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM) within your Trust, specifically pertaining to maternity services.**

**As part of a research project focusing on GDM screening and fetal outcomes, I am seeking detailed information on the following aspects:**

**1. Gestational Diabetes Mellitus Screening Methodology:  
Please provide details on the current methods used by your Trust to screen for Gestational Diabetes Mellitus.**

A1 At University Hospital of north Midlands women and birthing people who are at risk of developing gestational diabetes are offered oral glucose tolerance testing (OGTT) from 16 weeks gestation up until 35+6 weeks. After 36 weeks gestation or if the woman or birthing person is unable to have a OGTT, blood glucose monitoring is offered.

**Q2 Timing of Screening:  
At which gestational week do the majority of pregnant women undergo GDM screening within your Trust?**

A2 The majority of women and birthing people have a planned OGTT 24-28 weeks. There are occasions when OGTT is indicated earlier or later than this time. For example, for women who have had previous GTT an OGTT will be offered at 16 and 28 weeks.

The criteria for GTT up to 36/40 is as follows:

BMI >30 perform at 28 weeks.,  
Previous stillbirths perform at 28 weeks

Long term steroid use perform once pregnancy confirmed on USS. Repeat at 28 weeks.  
Previous GDM (GTT to be done once pregnancy confirmed on USS. Repeat at 28/40)  
Previous macrosomia baby 4.5kg or more. Perform 28 weeks.  
FH of diabetes (1<sup>st</sup> degree relative with diabetes) perform at 28 weeks.  
An ethnicity with a high prevalence of diabetes. Perform at 28 weeks.  
H/O PCOS perform once pregnancy confirmed on USS. Repeat at 28/40  
Women who take antipsychotic medication to include Aripiprazole, Ziprasidone, Quetiapine, Olanzapine, Risperidone. Perform once pregnancy confirmed on USS. Repeat at 28 weeks.

Glucosuria

2+ or more on 1 occasion

1+ or more on 2 occasions

- Q3 Early Screening for High-Risk Pregnancies:**  
**Do you conduct GDM screening earlier for pregnant women deemed to be at very high risk? If so, please specify the criteria for determining high risk and the gestational week at which such screenings are conducted.**
- A3 Early screening for GDM takes place at UHNM. The criteria is included in A2
- Q4 Administration of OGTT:**  
**Who is responsible for administering the OGTT within your Trust? Additionally, where is the OGTT typically conducted (e.g., hospital clinic, community health centre)?**
- A4 OGTT clinics are performed at County hospital for women who live within Stafford and Newcastle under Lyme. The screening is performed by a maternity support worker and the results are reviewed by a midwife. For the remainder of women OGTT is performed at one of five Gp provider sites within Stoke on Trent.
- Q5 Maternity-Related Risks Recorded in the Trust Risk Log:**  
**Please disclose which maternity-related risks are logged in the Trust's risk register or risk log.**
- A5 There are no specific GTT related risks on the Trust Risk register.
- Q6 Bank and agency Spending:**  
**-Please provide bank spend for midwifery staff for the year 2023, by job grade.**  
**-Please provide agency spend for midwifery staff for the year 2023, by job grade.**
- A6 The total spend on bank for midwives only in the calendar year 2023 was £777,278.

There was no agency spend on midwives in this period

We are unable to provide the job grades as this would require going through each line and seeing which job grade they sit under- section 12 exemption as detailed below:

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 this question is not held centrally, in order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all personnel 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 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*

\*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).

Yours,



University Hospitals  
of North Midlands  
NHS Trust

**Rachel Montinaro**  
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records

