



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-300b

Date: 27th January 2025

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 20th January 2025 asking for the outcome of the internal review, as the statutory time frame to respond passed in December 2025. You also stated if you do not receive any reply to this email by Thursday 23rd January 2025, you will have no option but to make a complaint to the ICO.

Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay. It transpires the information we originally provided to you was at Trust level by financial year. You have since confirmed you would like this information split by the sites and provided by calendar year. As previously explained, the delay has been due to validating this information to compile a response.

I hope this meets with your approval as per your original request below.

Q1 I am making a Freedom of Information Request for ICD10 first diagnosis discharge codes and cases per hospital in your health authority, and I hope you can help me with obtaining the following data. Any information must be totally anonymised; however, I am requesting the name or the postcode of each hospital as it pertains to the data set.

The first set comprises diagnostic data. There are three columns:

OPCS4: Primary diagnosis ICD-10 4 digit: Number of cases

The other data set deals with procedures/surgery. It has a similar structure:

OPCS4: Primary procedure OPCS-4 digit: Number of cases

The ICD 10 data comprises the range A000 to Q999.

It would be good to obtain the data for the last five years, i.e. 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23.

A1 Please find attached the revised spread sheet.

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 as being <5

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.

*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,



Leah Carlisle
Head of DSP & Health Records

Appendix 1 – Correspondence

Original request received 7th August 2024.

On 8th August 2024 we contacted you via email with the following:

Please confirm the following:

Firstly, OPCS4 is NOT the same as ICD10 these are 2 different things - OPCS4: Primary diagnosis
ICD-10 4 digit: Number of cases

It references 3 columns we can't not see the 3 columns of data you require.

It refers to the "the first dataset" then the "other dataset". What are these datasets?

On 9th August you replied with a spreadsheet and an example

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 23rd September 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding our response on codes.

You emailed the following.

'Thank you for the data.

Please may I ask that the data be split per named hospital as per my original request?

Many thanks for your help in this matter.'

Trust response sent to you 27th August 2024.

On the 23rd September 2024 you responded 'thank you for the data. Please may I ask that the data be split per named hospital as per my original request. Many thanks for your help in this matter. '

On 22nd October 2024 we replied with.

Thank you for your email above, we have reviewed the data we have provided and are unable to split by site due to the low numbers and potential to identify patients as stated in our response to you 27/08/24.

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 as being <5

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.

On 23rd October 2024 you replied with.

'Thank you very much for your reply.

I will be most grateful to receive the information as you suggest, with the low case numbers registered as <5 by its code.'

On the same day we responded with:

Thank you for your email below, but as stated, we are unable to split out this data due to the low numbers, as we have already given you a spread sheet with the totals, by providing you with another spread sheet split by site, this would enable you to see the actual figures.

Therefore section 40 is applied

You replied via email with.

'Thank you for your reply.

I find it curious that in your reply you state "However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being <5" then when I ask for this you refuse.

I will now request an Internal Review. Please acknowledge receipt of this request, that the Internal Review has been instigated and supply a date by which time I will receive the outcome.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.'