



Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-064b

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Data, Security and Protection
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 1st June 2022

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 18th May 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding our response on patient re-imbursements.

The University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust is committed to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

However, the NHS is facing unprecedented challenges relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic at the current time. Understandably, our resources have been diverted to support our front-line colleagues who are working tremendously hard to provide care for our patients, and to those in need of our services.

We strive to be transparent and to work with an open culture. But at this time, whilst care of our patients and the safety of our staff takes precedent, it is likely that responses to some requests for information will be delayed. We apologise for this position in advance, and will endeavour to provide you with as much information as we can, as soon as we are able.

The Information Commissioners Office has recognised the current situation in the NHS.

You emailed:

'Thank you for the response. In regard to question 4, I required actual costs re-imbursed for electricity & water. i.e., if a patient dialysed 3 times a week for 4 hours (including all other costs related this, for example RO rinse maintenance etc), how much electricity & water would be re-imbursed per month?'

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 Do you provide financial support to your home haemodialysis (HHD) and automated peritoneal dialysis (APD) patients via a re-imburement scheme for electricity and water usage?

A1 HHD patients are reimbursed for electricity. Water is only paid if the patient has a water meter and not claiming benefits. APD patients are not reimbursed for electricity or water.

Q2 What dialysis machines do you use for HHD and APD?

A2 See below:

- HHD Machines Fresenius 5008s
- APD Machines Baxter and Fresenius

Q3 How frequently do you reimburse utility costs to your HHD patients and APD patients? i.e., monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, yearly etc

A3 HHD patients are mainly reimbursed a number of ways this can be quarterly/monthly or they have their bill paid direct to the energy company. Not applicable for APD patients

Q4 What are the average costs you reimburse to your HHD patients and APD patients for both electricity and water?

A4 Payment is based on how many hours and days a patient dialyses

Amended answer as per your query above:

Calculations as below based on hours and days machine is used, it is not a flat payment for all patients. For the purposes of this request calculations based on the majority of dialysis patients i.e dialyses 4 hours per day over 3 days. Reimbursement is generally quarterly.

Electricity:

4hrs + 1 hr clean x 3 days = 15 hrs per week.

Machine uses 1.95KV x 15hrs = 29.25KV.

This provides a payment of £6.201 per week x 13 weeks = **£80.613.**

Water:

Water used per week is 1.8 litres.

Water used per quarter is 21.6 litres (based on 13 weeks)

Cost of water is £1.86 x 21.6 = **£40.176**

Drainage is also reimbursed:

Cost of using the drain is £1.22 x 21.6 = **£26.352**

Water and Drains **£66.528** per 13 weeks.

Q5 When did the service last review its re-imburement costs?

A5 01/01/2022

Q6 Do you provide any other re-imburements to your patients dialysing at home?

A6 No other re-imburements are provided

*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.

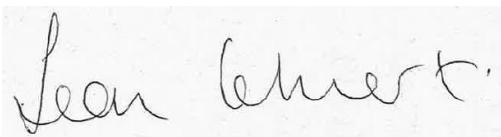
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and 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 671612.

Yours,



Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager