



Royal Stoke University Hospital

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

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-247

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Hepatic Veno-occlusive Disease

On 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020 we contacted you via email as we required clarification on Q1, we stated:  
To continue with your request we require clarification on the specific information you are requesting for Q1, as this is a multiple question with only one answer box on your attached spread sheet:

*Q1 - Number of patients with a diagnosis of Hepatic Veno Occlusive Disease (ICD-10 K765) and their age at the time of treatment in the following time periods*

On 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020 you replied via email with the following:

*“Regarding your query for the below question:*

*Q1 - Number of patients with a diagnosis of Hepatic Veno Occlusive Disease (ICD-10 K765) and their age at the time of treatment in the following time periods*

*Apologies for any confusion. There is no need to state the patient age in the box. I am referring to whether the patient is an ‘adult 18+’ or a ‘child 17 or under’.*

*For example, if there was 1 patient diagnosed with VOD in 2015/16 under the age of 17, then you would put ‘1’ in cell G5 in the spread sheet. If there were 3 patients diagnosed with VOD in NHS year 2018/19 over the age of 18 then you would put ‘3’ in cell J4, please.*

*I hope this makes sense? Thank you very much for your acknowledgement of the request”*

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 We are a Healthcare agency working with the NHS and a number of other clients in the healthcare area. In accordance to the right of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would like to request information regarding the use of defibrotide for the treatment of Hepatic Veno-occlusive Disease at specific hospitals within this NHS Trust.**

**Some of the information requested will be available from a reimbursement form (Blueteq form); these are also populated for other medicines and may be acquired either via**

contacting the Lead Pharmacist/Director of Pharmacy as first port of call, or the Trust Finance division/Procurement department.

We would prefer the answers for the specified hospital: Royal Stoke University Hospital within the trust as per the tabs in this Excel spread sheet. If you do not have the data at hospital level, please can you confirm which hospitals are included in the Trust's data?

The questions are laid out in this Excel spread sheet on the next tab

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 as being <5.

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

Please refer to the attached spread sheet that you supplied

\*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

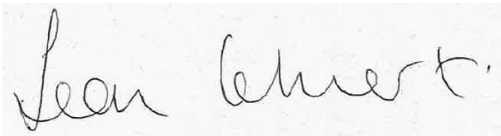
still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

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](http://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**