

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 22-490

14 October 2022

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting

Is your trust involved in the medical care of infants in the first 72 hours of life?

If no please answer only the above question and respond to this request

If yes, I would be grateful if you could also answer the following:

1. Do you have a guideline for the investigation and treatment of early onset infection/sepsis in neonates (names will vary)?

Yes - Infants at risk of early Neonatal Infections (please see attached document).

2. Does your guideline use NICE or Kaiser Permanente criteria for assessment of infants at risk of early onset neonatal sepsis?

NICE

3. Within your early onset neonatal sepsis guideline what are the indications for lumbar puncture?

Signs/symptoms of meningitis

Strong clinical suspicion of sepsis

Consider with:

CRP >10

Positive Blood culture

Poor clinical response to antibiotic treatment

4. How many lumbar punctures has your trust carried out in infants under 72 hours of age in the last 12 months?

179 Cerebrospinal fluid for MCS samples taken.

5. How many of these had positive CSF cultures (not including bacterial PCR)?

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond

to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

6. How many infants under 72 hours of age were diagnosed with meningitis in the last 12 months in your trust?

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7. How many infants between 72 hours of age and 7 days of age were diagnosed with meningitis in your trust?

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This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Data Protection Officer
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust