

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 23-027

19 January 2023

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

Could you please let me know

a) The number and variety of point of care equipment that is utilised within your trust

There are approximately 400 POCT devices across the Trust. These comprise the following types of device:

- Blood gas analyser (benchtop)
- HbA1c analyser
- Blood gas analyser (handheld)
- Glucose / ketone meter
- Coagulation timer (INR)
- Coagulation timer (activated clotting time)
- Thromboelastography
- Full blood counter
- Haemoglobin meter (handheld)
- Viral RNA PCR machine
- Placental growth factor analyser
- Fetal fibronectin analyser

b) The numbers and grades of staff that employed to cover the point of care testing requirements within the trust

The point of care testing itself is undertaken by suitably trained staff in the clinical areas in which the devices are situated. In many cases, it is also the ward staff who are responsible for the maintenance, quality assurance, and training aspects of the POCT service. For other POCT devices, these aspects are managed centrally. The staff who undertake these duties are also employed to perform non-POCT related duties. It is therefore difficult to estimate the equivalent number of staff who 'cover the POCT requirements within the trust'. There is one associate practitioner who spends the majority of time on POCT duties. The other staff who

support POCT spend only a small minority of their time on this area. This pool of staff contains six individuals.

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