

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 23-242**

18 April 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

**I would like a statement on your Trust's policy - or the details of the policy - regarding oncology treatment for inpatients in your Trust's hospital.**

**To clarify,**

**i) if a patient residing in one of the trust's hospitals was diagnosed or had previously been diagnosed with cancer, would they be able to receive treatment when they were an inpatient.**

Yes. If a patient requires treatment on an inpatient basis, it is given as such. Decisions about what treatment to give and in what setting are taken by the clinical team managing the individual patient in line with national clinical guidance. For example, if a patient is acutely unwell they may not be fit to safely undergo oncology treatment during an initial inpatient stay, in which case it may be given at a later date once they are well enough.

**ii) If not, does the Trust have a policy of patients receiving treatment for cancer only when they are an outpatient - and does this depend on which kind of treatment they receive?**

The Trust does not have such a policy.

**iii) In addition, could you please confirm the average time it takes from the decision that a patient is medically fit to be discharged until they are discharged.**

Each patient's time from fit to discharge is different dependent on their personal/medical circumstances. They may be waiting for loved ones to pick them up, for example, or a social care placement.

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**