

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 23-502**

24 July 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 hold some of the information you are requesting

**Please see below a request for the following information relating to tongue tie in babies aged 0-12 months.**

- **How many babies were born within your trust between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?**

4517

- **How many babies were diagnosed with ankyloglossia (tongue tie) between Jan1st 2022 and December 31 2022 at your trust?**

Our systems do not record this information.

- **On average how many days after birth was a tongue tie diagnosis made between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?**

Our systems do not record this information.

- **How many babies diagnosed with tongue tie were referred for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?**

We had 536 referrals for assessment. Not all of them would have resulted in a diagnosis. Of those diagnosed, 286 had a frenotomy. A proportion of those diagnosed would have chosen or been recommended conservative management (ie NOT had a frenotomy) but that proportion is unknown.

- **Is the frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) available to babies who are fully formula fed?**

No, as per the Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) policy on the following link: [Microsoft Word - Tongue Tie Policy CBA v1920.2.01.docx \(icb.nhs.uk\)](#)

- **How many frenotomy procedures (tongue tie division) were carried out on babies at your trust between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?**

286

- **What was the average waiting time in days between diagnosis/ referral and a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?**

<1 week

- **How many women had to wait 3 weeks or longer after a referral for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) or their baby between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?**

Zero

- **How many women waited more than 6 weeks, 8 weeks, 12 weeks and 16 weeks or longer for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) for their baby between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?**

Zero

- **What is the longest amount of time a women had to wait after a referral for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) for their baby between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?**

1-2 weeks

- **If there is no tongue tie division service in your trust how many referrals were made to an alternative NHS Service for tongue toe division?**

Not applicable

- **How many women declined the offer of a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) within the NHS between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?**

Our systems do not record this information.

- **Of the women who declined the offer of a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) within the NHS between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022 are you aware how many sought treatment privately instead?**

Our systems do not record this information.

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**