

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 23-868

27 November 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

1. The type and number of tourniquets used for venepuncture and cannulation annually in your Hospital Trust, specifically whether you use single use (disposable) or reusable tourniquets and what material they are made out of.

Please see below usage of all tourniquets used in the Trust. Provided are MPCs (manufacturer's product code) and 12-month usage in pieces. Due to data limitations, we are unable to provide tourniquets used in venepuncture and cannulation only, their re-usability or the material they are made from.

MPC	Total
10-6197	50
20-21-100-1	290
20-34-700-1	10
20-34-710-1	40
20-34-711-1	50
20-34-712-1	310
20-34-715-1	10
20-34-722-1	300
20-34-727-1	240
20-34-728-1	80
20-54-712	1

20-95-222	450
40288	10
40290	10
40292	10
40293	10
40295	10
40296	10
40305	240
40315	240
501110	2,300
580501	1,100
580502	1,200
5921024135	10
5921218135	70
79004	440
82-015365/NS	288
82-030365/NS	40
840050	4
RML506-044	40
TBBN25	492,100
TCT/L	97
TCT/M	82
TCT/S	52
TCT/XL	40
TRA 100NS	100
W2147	6
Grand Total	500,340

2. If you use a mix of both, whether there is there any Trust policy for deciding which tourniquet to use.

We only use single use tourniquets.

3. When you first introduced single use tourniquets, if you do use them.

We do not hold this information.

4. The cost per single use tourniquet/other type of tourniquet you use (or total annual cost)

This is commercially sensitive information and will not be shared at an organisational level. Section 43 of the FOI Act provides that information is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person. Therefore, we are withholding this information at this time.

5. The MRSA infection rates at your Trust, for three years either side of your introduction of single use tourniquets, referring to bloodstream infections (bacteremias) rather than surface carriage.

As we do not hold the information on when single use tourniquets were introduced into the Trust, we are unable to provide this information.

6. Whether you implemented any of the following infection control procedures within the same year as implementing single use tourniquets:

- **Stricter hand hygiene policy**

As we do not hold the information on when single use tourniquets were introduced into the Trust, we are unable to provide this information.

- **Staff education programme on infection control procedures**

As we do not hold the information on when single use tourniquets were introduced into the Trust, we are unable to provide this information.

- **Screening of patients for MRSA on admission to hospital**

As we do not hold the information on when single use tourniquets were introduced into the Trust, we are unable to provide this information.

- **Isolation or decolonisation of patients who tested positive for MRSA**

As we do not hold the information on when single use tourniquets were introduced into the Trust, we are unable to provide 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