

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 20-622

12 January 2021

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 some of the information you are requesting

According to DHSC data (Supplementary Analysis FOI 1250644) there has only been 1 medical abortion complication recorded on HSA4 forms due to use of both abortion pills (mifepristone and misoprostol) at home between January and June.

These complications, as recorded on HSA4 form include a) sepsis, b) haemorrhage, and c) uterine perforation.

1. Please can you tell me the number of women your hospital has treated with each of these complications between Jan 1st and December 1st this year?

We do not hold this information.

2. Please can you also tell me how many women you treated in your hospitals between Jan 1st and December 1st of this year, for incomplete abortion or RPOC, specifying the number requiring Evacuation of Retained Products of Conception (ERPC) as well. NB. This should include the treatment of women who may have received abortion pills from independent abortion providers before attending your hospital, as well as those who may have been prescribed abortion pills by your hospital (or hospitals within of your trust).

351 – 209 of whom were treated for Evacuation of Retained Products of Conception

If it complies within the FOI limitations (eg. 18 hour time limit, cost, privacy etc) please also specify the following:

- what their complication was
- whether they required a blood transfusion
- whether they required antibiotics
- The data be broken into two sections: Jan 1st to June 1st and June 1st to December

1st

- **2019 data for comparison**

We understand that some of these will be due to spontaneous abortion, and others by medical induced abortion. Unless clearly stated you need not distinguish between them.

We do not hold this information.

We also understand that most cases of sepsis and haemorrhage will not be formally connected with abortion, however where the possibility of a medical abortion cannot be ruled out we ask that you include this data.

We do not hold 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:

Director of Corporate Governance
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