

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 21-552**

20 October 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 hold some the information you are requesting

**1. Does the NHS Trust authorise the use of any kind of mechanical restraint?**

Yes

**2. What types of Mechanical Restraint is authorised? e.g. Handcuffs; Soft Cuffs; Velcro Leg restraints; Emergency Response Belts (ERB). Spit hoods**

Handcuffs, Soft cuff (ITU only), Leg restraints

**3. Is the necessary training to apply the authorised form of mechanical restraint linked to a nationally recognised training qualification?**

Yes, Skills for Justice

**4. Does the NHS Trust authorise the use of Posey Mitts, if a risk assessment deems them to be a reasonable and proportionate response?**

Yes

**5. Total number of recorded incidents of mechanical restraint usage (of any type) if in use for the period September 2020 -September 2021**

	Number of times Mechanical restraints were used
Sep 2020	5
Oct 2020	4

Nov 2020	5
Dec 2020	5
Jan 2021	11
Feb 2021	10
Mar 2021	14
Apr 2021	13
May 2021	8
Jun 2021	8
Jul 2021	12
Aug 2021	17

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**