

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 22-201

10 May 2022

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

The Aortic Dissection Charitable Trust is the UK's first charity dedicated to aortic dissection. We are undertaking a piece of work to better understand if Trusts have policies and / or procedures in place for the management of patients with chest pain, suspected aortic dissection and diagnosed aortic dissection. From this we hope to produce a standard policy / procedure for the NHS.

We would therefore like to submit a FOI request for the following information:

1. Do you have a policy and/or written procedures for how your trust responds to patients presenting at A&E with chest pain or suspected heart related conditions?

Yes, the Trust has guidance on Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS), and direct referrals to cardiology guidance.

2. Do you have a policy and/or written procedures for managing suspected aortic dissection?

The Trust uses the Royal College of Emergency Medicine guidance, published in November 2021.

3. Do you have a policy and/or written procedures for managing aortic dissection once diagnosed? Please provide a copy of these

The Trust uses vascular network guidance (please see the attached documents).

4. If you have a policy or procedures in place regarding aortic dissection, what is the trust's process for ensuring that all clinical staff are made aware and are reminded?

All medical/Advanced Clinical Practitioner (ACP) and Emergency Nurse Practitioner (ENP) staff in the Emergency Department are taught at induction and have been since 2012. We teach on a case by case basis at board rounds and discuss at the Morbidity and Mortality

(M&M)/interesting cases meeting.

5. If you provide training, please provide a copy of the training material. Do you have any training / induction to ensure that all staff are familiar with it?

Please see the response to question 4 and the attached documents.

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**