

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 22-325

12 July 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

1, An adult patient (who usually lives in your catchment area) sustains an injury, whilst out of area, that requires Orthopaedic follow up as an outpatient. They have attended the Emergency Department nearest to where they are staying and received initial management and are now able to be discharged for out patient follow up. They would like to have this managed at their local hospital (your NHS Trust)

What mechanism would the referral hospital need to go through to ensure this follow up and timely review occurs. Please include as much detail as possible, imagining that you are the clinician at the referring hospital.

What is your hospital's policy for patients (adult and paediatric) who live in your area who need ongoing care and/or follow up having sustained an orthopaedic injury elsewhere and having received the appropriate initial management at the hospital where they first attended.

Bristol Royal Infirmary:

The Emergency Department can refer the patient to us via fax or emailing our booking office. The booking office will book the patient into our virtual fracture clinic for triage (this generally occurs within two days). If our consultant needs images, they will ask the referring centre (other hospital Trust) to send the images to us as we cannot view them.

Assuming the patient sustained a fracture; the hospital refers to us via fax or email to the booking team and we see the patient the same as any other referral.

2, A paediatric patient, aged 16 and under, (who usually lives in your catchment area) sustains an injury, whilst out of area, that requires Orthopaedic follow up as an outpatient. They have attended the Emergency Department nearest to where they are staying and received initial management and are now able to be discharged for out patient follow up. They would like to have this managed at their local hospital (your NHS Trust)

What mechanism would the referral hospital need to go through to ensure this follow up and timely review occurs. Please include as much detail as possible, imagining that you are the clinician at the referring hospital.

What is your hospital's policy for patients (adult and paediatric) who live in your area who need ongoing care and/or follow up having sustained an orthopaedic injury elsewhere and having received the appropriate initial management at the hospital where they first attended.

Bristol Royal Hospital for Children:

If the child had sustained an injury where they need follow up within the immediate post op period, we would receive verbal communication via the on call team to discuss transfer of care and request written confirmation of the episode from the referring centre, including transfer of any relevant imaging. They would then be booked a fracture clinic follow up (clinic runs Monday – Friday every afternoon). We manage these situations quite regularly, whether it be children from BNSSG (Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire) travelling to the south west for holidays, sustaining an injury with treatment in Plymouth, Cornwall etc, and coming back to us following treatment, or those children from the south west coming to us as the major trauma centre and referring back to locality for local follow up to avoid the need for further travel.

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