

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 22-356**

14 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 hold some of the information you are requesting

**1. How many bladder injuries sustained during childbirth were recorded in the last five years (2016 – 2021)**

We do not hold this information as it is not recorded on our maternity system

**2. How many organ injuries were recorded as a result of a caesarean (elective or emergency) in the last five years (2016 – 2021)**

We do not hold this information as it is not recorded on our maternity system

**3. How many anal sphincter injuries sustained during childbirth were recorded in the last five years (2016 – 2021)**

607

**4. How many third grade or fourth grade tears sustained during childbirth were recorded in the last five years?**

2017-2021:

Grade 3a tear - 252

Grade 3b tear - 243

Grade 3c tear - 76

Grade 4 tear - 36

**5. Of these injuries, how many patients were referred to perinatal and pelvic health physiotherapy services?**

We do not hold this information as referrals are not recorded

**6. Of these injuries, how many patients were still being followed up for ongoing care after 2 years?**

We do not hold this information as it is not recorded on our maternity system

**7. Of these injuries, how many resulted in a serious incident investigation being raised?**  
Zero.

**8. Of these injuries, how many were recorded as 'never events'.**  
Zero.

**9. Of these injuries, how many patients received Duty of Candour notifications.**  
Zero

**10. How many readmissions post-birth were recorded in the last five years related to bladder injuries?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

**11. How many readmissions post-birth were recorded in the last five years related to anal sphincter injuries?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

**12. How many readmissions post-birth were recorded in the last five years related to third grade or fourth grade tears sustained during childbirth?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

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**