

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 23-966

3 January 2024

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. Has your Trust implemented GIRFT pathway for suspected CES in all of its hospitals.

No

2. If the answer to Q1 is affirmative, please advise when it was implemented and advise on the following:

I. Number of CES related training to staff in the period since implemented compared to the same period duration prior to implementation;

Not applicable

II. Number of MRI scans undertaken for suspected CES in the period since implemented compared to the same period duration prior to implementation;

Not applicable

III. Average time between MRI referral and performance of the scan for suspected CES in the period since implemented compared to the same period duration prior to implementation;

Not applicable

IV. Number of patients who underwent surgery for CES in the period since implemented compared to the same period duration prior to implementation;

Not applicable

V. Breakdown of feedback raised by clinicians with your Trust regarding implementation of the pathway including total number of clinicians who provided feedback, whether positive or negative and its nature (for example resource issue /training/delays/patient safety).

Not applicable

3. If the answer to Q1 is negative, please state:

I. If only some hospitals within your Trust implemented the pathway, please state which ones did not and the reason why.

Only one site in the Trust has an MRI on-call service. The radiographers running this service are expected in work the next day.

II. What other policy is followed with regards to the diagnosis and management of CES?

MRI scans are arranged for the following morning at 7am by the overnight Radiographers.

III. Are the plans for the pathway to be implemented in the future and if so when? If not, why not?

The cost of it and the impact to the service are being investigated.

IV. Breakdown of feedback raised by clinicians with your Trust regarding lack of implementation of the pathway including total number of clinicians who provided feedback, whether positive or negative and its nature (for example resource issue/training/delays/patient safety)

Not enough MRI Radiographers

The value of an accurate patient examination

Patients waiting for four hours for ambulance transfer from smaller site to larger site for scan instead of going straight to neuro hospital.

There should be a standardisation of services across all hospitals.

Portering delays.

Some patients have devices which must be managed by another team to make them safe prior to MRI. These teams are under pressure in life and death situations.

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**