

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-095

25 March 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 hold some of the information you are requesting

1. Do(es) your hospital(s) have a solution to eliminate pathogens from the air?

No

1.1 In which departments?

Not applicable

1.2 In which rooms?

Not applicable

1.3 What technology(ies) are in use?:

Not applicable

1.3.1.1 Air circulation with Ultra Violet (UV)

Not applicable

1.3.1.2 Air Circulation with Air Filter

Not applicable

1.3.1.3 Air Circulation with Air Filter and UV

Not applicable

1.3.1.4 HVAC with UV

Not applicable

1.3.1.5 HVAC without UV

Not applicable

1. Not applicable

4 Other (Which technology?)

2. Do(es) your hospital(s) have a solution to eliminate pathogens from the surfaces?

Yes, with differing levels of cleaning primarily.

2.1 In which departments?

All hospitals

2.2 In which rooms?

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.

2.3 What technology(ies) are in use to kill pathogens?:

2.3.1.1 UV

Not used.

2.3.1.1.1 What wavelength?

Not applicable

2.3.1.1.2 In which areas of the hospital?

Not applicable

2.3.1.2 Antimicrobial coating

Not applicable

2.3.1.2.1 Which coating materials?

Not applicable

2.3.1.2.2 In which areas of the hospital?

Not applicable

2.3.1.3 Antimicrobial cleaning products

2.3.1.3.1 Which chemicals?

Achtichlor/hydrogen peroxide primarily, peracetic acid in some instances.

2.3.1.3.2 In which areas of the hospital?

All hospitals

2.3.1.4 Antimicrobial materials

No we do not use widely any microbial surfaces in the organisation e.g. microban type surfaces.

2.3.1.4.1 Which chemicals

Not applicable

2.3.1.4.2 In which areas of the hospital?

Not applicable

2.3.1.5 HVAC with UV

Not applicable

2.3.1.6 HVAC without UV

Not applicable

2.4 Other (Which technology?) – for what and in what context?

Not applicable

3. What are the three most important areas to have a solution to kill pathogens from the air?

It's important in all areas across the hospital, noting where a sterile procedure undertaken such as theatres and place with highest risk patients such as oncology areas are particularly important however the vulnerability of a wide group of patients in the hospital should be noted and in areas with high footfall such as the Emergency Department.

4. What are the three most important areas to have a solution to kill pathogens from the surfaces?

It's important in all areas across the hospital, noting where a sterile procedure undertaken such as theatres and place with highest risk patients such as oncology areas are particularly important however the vulnerability of a wide group of patients in the hospital should be noted and in areas with high footfall such as the Emergency Department.

5. Which department(s) / professional(s) make(s) the procurement decisions regarding solutions to kill pathogens from the air?

5.1 Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)

5.2 Facilities Management

5.3 Other (which?)

It's a collaborative decision with procurement, IPC, microbiology, specialists for different

aspects of the environment if required (estates), facilities, clinical teams and finance.

6. Which department(s) / professional(s) make(s) the procurement decisions regarding solutions to kill pathogens from the surfaces?

6.1 Infection Prevention and Control

6.2 Facilities Management

6.3 Other (which?)

It's a collaborative decision with procurement, IPC, microbiology, specialists for different aspects of the environment if required (estates), facilities, clinical teams and finance.

7. Do you have an Infection Prevention and Control department or is(are) designated members of staff managing it?

Yes and there is a designated manager.

8. Are you planning to purchase a solution to kill pathogens from the air on the next
o 12 months?

o 24 months?

No

9. Are you planning to purchase a solution to kill pathogens from the surfaces on the next

o 12 months?

o 24 months?

No

10. Are you planning to purchase a solution to improve clinician hand hygiene on the next

o 12 months?

o 24 months?

No

11. What are your Infection Prevention and control targets for the next five years (Ex.: reduce number of Hospital Acquired Infections reductions by x% (n), increase clinicians hands hygiene rate by x%, reduce pathogens levels from the air in patient areas by x%, reduce pathogens levels from the air in public areas by x%, reduce pathogens levels from the surfaces in patient areas by x%, reduce pathogens levels from the surfaces in public areas by x%...)

This is not recorded.

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