

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-577

14 August 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 BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY recorded any Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs) over the past 12 months?

Yes

2. Has there been any case in the past 12 months where a HAI has resulted in the death of a patient at BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY?

Healthcare infections as a single cause of death outside of COVID-19 deaths are usually multi-factorial and are not normally attributed to the infection.

3. What is the most common type of Healthcare-Associated Infection (HAI) recorded at BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY?

Clostridium difficile.

4. How many cases of the HAI identified in the answer to question 3 has BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY recorded over the past three years?

We are able to obtain this information however we have decided to apply **Section 21** of the FOIA as this information is reasonably accessible in the public domain on NHS England website on the following link:

[Healthcare associated infections \(HCAI\): guidance, data and analysis - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/healthcare-associated-infections-hcai-guidance-data-and-analysis)

5. Have there been any recorded 'outbreaks' of HAIs at BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY in the last three years?

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.

6. Has BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY made the decision to use single-use medical equipment in place of reusable options either fully or partially because of benefits to patient safety/infection control?

Yes.

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