

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 24-655**

12 September 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

**We request the following information for the four-year period from 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2023:**

**1. Post-procedural Endophthalmitis Monitoring or audit:**

- **Is there a policy/pathway in place for monitoring or regularly auditing the rates of post-cataract endophthalmitis in your organisation?**

**Yes – (Please provide reports from this process as electronic copies or appropriate weblinks if the information is already available to the public)**

**No** - We have a system for monitoring (Datix). We do not regularly audit this. The only pathway/policy specific to endophthalmitis is the one that we have attached.

**2. Endophthalmitis Treatment Policies and Pathways**

**Do you have a treatment policy for post-cataract presumed infectious endophthalmitis in your hospital detailing timing of treatment, investigations or antibiotic regimes?**

**Yes – (Please provide details as electronic copies)** - Please see the attached document.

**No**

**3. Cases of Endophthalmitis:**

**Please could you list the cases of suspected post-cataract surgery endophthalmitis which were recorded across the four NHS Audit years from 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2023. The purpose of this request is to cross-reference these cases with those reported to the National Ophthalmology Database. To do this we require the list of cases with:**

- the date of the cataract surgery that resulted in suspected endophthalmitis
- the location where the cataract surgery was performed
- the date of diagnosis of suspected endophthalmitis
- the laterality of affected eye (right or left)

**Additionally, if your hospital has treated any patients for suspected endophthalmitis**

**originating from cataract surgeries performed at another facility, please include these cases as well. It is essential to clearly indicate the location where the cataract surgery was undertaken.**

We cannot provide this information. We don't record information under suspected conditions, this is coded under confirmed diagnoses/procedures.

#### **4. Microbiology and Antimicrobial Resistance:**

**There may be changing patterns of infective agents or emerging strains of resistant bacteria. We therefore request information on each case from the microbiology report:**

- What sample was sent to microbiology (vitreous biopsy or anterior chamber tap)?**
- What are the microbiology culture or PCR results for the recorded cases of endophthalmitis? (please include negative results of “no growth”)**
- What antimicrobial resistance was reported from these cultures?**

We do not hold this information. The microbiology service is provided by North Bristol NHS Trust. Please contact [foi@nbt.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@nbt.nhs.uk) for further information.

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**