

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 24-659**

18 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

**1. Infection Control Documentation for the period September to 2021 up to and including February 2022, to include the following:**

☐ **Hospital infection rates**

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)

Section 21 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to provide the requested information if it is already reasonably accessible and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

☐ **Hand hygiene rates**

Please see the attached documents.

☐ **Cleaning audits**

Please see the attached documents.

☐ **Infection control audits**

Please see the attached documents.

☐ **Infection route cause analysis (this is compulsory for all MRSA and c-diff positive tests)**

Clinical reviews and were undertaken for MRSA cases and C. difficile cases during the required time period. This process has since changed aligned to Patient Safety Incident Response Framework (PSIRF).

**2. The Trust's protocols for managing patients with COVID-19 and C-Difficile that were in place in December 2021 to February 2022.**

The management of C. Difficile during this time period is unchanged in terms of screening and assessment, sampling, isolation, clinical management with antibiotics and ongoing care.

There isn't a specific protocol to cover all of these aspects. There is a clinical guideline, and antibiotic guidance. Please see the attached document.

**3. The Trust's protocols for managing patients over the age of 65 with a history of falls, dementia and increasing confusion.**

The Trust has a Falls Prevention and Management for Patients Policy. There is an adult inpatient falls prevention care bundle (including a multi-factorial risk assessment for falls) as part of routine care for adult inpatients who are identified as at risk of falls. There is also a post-falls checklist that is completed for anyone who has had an inpatient fall. In addition, there is an enhanced Care Observation and meaningful activities policy for those patients requiring enhanced observation. Please see the attached document.

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**