

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-858

3 December 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. Please supply a copy of your guideline(s) relating to group B Strep during pregnancy, labour, and in newborn babies

Please see the attached documents.

2. Please provide the date when your guidelines relating to group B Strep during pregnancy, labour, and in newborn babies were last updated

Please see the attached documents.

3. Please provide the date when your guidelines relating to group B Strep during pregnancy, labour, and in newborn babies are due to be updated

Please see the attached documents.

4. Do you provide information materials about group B Strep to all pregnant women and people as a routine part of antenatal care? (Yes/No)

No

5. If you do not provide information materials about group B Strep to all pregnant women and people, do you provide them to any of the following groups during antenatal care? (Select all that apply)

those who have previously had a baby who developed GBS infection

those where GBS was detected before the current pregnancy (swab or urine)

those where GBS was detected during the current pregnancy (swab or urine)

those who are in preterm labour those with preterm rupture of membranes those with prolonged rupture of membranes those who request information

Not applicable

6. Please supply copies of the information materials (physical and/or digital) which are

given to pregnant women and people about GBS as a routine part of antenatal care.
Please see the attached document *Preventing group B streptococcus (GBS) infection in newborn babies*

7. Do you offer testing specifically for maternal GBS carriage to any pregnant women or people in either late pregnancy or in labour? [By this we mean a test specifically intended to detect GBS carriage, rather than a general test for the presence of any microorganisms of interest] (Yes/No)

Please see the attached document *Group B Streptococcus (GBS) Infection Care in Pregnancy and Labour*

8. If you offer testing specifically for maternal GBS carriage in late pregnancy or in labour, do you offer: (Select all that apply) Testing late in pregnancy Testing in labour

Please see the attached document *Group B Streptococcus (GBS) Infection Care in Pregnancy and Labour*

9. Do you offer GBS-specific testing for maternal GBS carriage to: (Select all that apply) All pregnant women and people Those who previously had a baby who developed GBS infection Those where GBS was detected in a previous pregnancy Those who request it Those in other circumstances (for example, for reasons such as PPRM or vaginal discharge) Other (please state)

Please see the attached document *Group B Streptococcus (GBS) Infection Care in Pregnancy and Labour*

10. If you undertake GBS-specific testing for maternal GBS carriage, which of the following specimen types do you collect (Select all that apply):

Vaginal Swab alone

Rectal Swab alone

Both Vaginal and Rectal Swab(s)

Other (please state)

Guidance from the UKHSA (United Kingdom Health Security Agency) is given to requestors.

11. If you undertake GBS-specific testing for maternal GBS carriage, which detection method is used by the Microbiology laboratory? (Select all that apply) Direct culture on non-selective, non-chromogenic media Direct culture on selective &/or indicator media Broth enrichment with subculture onto non-selective, non-chromogenic media Broth enrichment with subculture onto selective &/or chromogenic media PCR (for example, Cepheid GeneXpert) Other (Please state)

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

12. Does your lab offer any of the following (Select all that apply):

Enriched Culture Medium (ECM) as part of the routine lab test repertoire ECM offered, with samples referred to another lab PCR as part of the routine lab test repertoire PCR

offered, with samples referred to another lab Other (please state)

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

13. Do you provide training on group B Strep in labour to (Select all that apply)

Midwifery staff - No

Obstetric staff - No

Neonatal staff - No

Laboratory staff - No

Others (please state) - No

14. Do you use the Kaiser Permanente Neonatal Early-Onset Sepsis Calculator? (Yes/No)

No

14a. If yes to Q14, is there a prospective audit in place? (Yes/No)

Not applicable

14b. If yes to Q14, from what gestation do you use the calculator? Please specify weeks and days e.g. 34+0

Not applicable

15. Do you use digital platforms to analyse your Trust/Board's rates of GBS infection [invasive neonatal or maternal infections - not non-invasive infections, or infections that are not neonatal/pregnancy-related] (Yes/No)

Yes

16. If you use digital platforms to analyse your Trust/Board's rates of GBS infection as defined in Q15, do you use this for: (Select all that apply)

Early-onset GBS infection – Yes

Late-onset GBS infection – Yes

Maternal GBS infection – Yes

Others (please state)

17. Has your Trust adopted the NHS Complaint Standards as set out by the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman?

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