

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 25-153

10 March 2025

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 not hold the information you are requesting

I'm writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please would you be able to provide:

1. Any data on hospital admissions, A&E visits, or GP consultations where nicotine pouches were recorded as a contributing factor, for 2023, 2024, and 2025. Please disaggregate this data by:

- ☐ **Type of admission (eg A&E visit, hospital admission or GP consultation)**
- ☐ **Year**
- ☐ **Age of patient (either under 18 or over 18)**
- ☐ **Health condition related to nicotine pouch use**

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. Any data on patients with recorded dental or oral health conditions linked to nicotine pouch use within your Trust's dental services, for 2023, 2024 and 2025. Please disaggregate this data by:

- ☐ **Year**
- ☐ **Age of patient (either under 18 or over 18)**
- ☐ **Type of oral health condition**

Note that I am only requesting statistical information in aggregate form and do not require any personal details or identifiers about individual cases.

If this request runs the risk of triggering a cost exemption, please could you provide me with as much of the information as possible, working backwards in time from 2025 –

2024 – 2023, within the appropriate time limit. Please prioritise the number of patients and the type of health condition related to nicotine pouch use if this is the case.

If you are unable to provide this data, for example because of the way in which your patient records are recorded, please elaborate on the specific filing system that you use and comment more generally as to whether your trust has seen the use of nicotine pouches being a health (dental or otherwise) issue.

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.

Please note the system used is Careflow EPR.

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**