

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 25-261

29 April 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 hold some of the information you are requesting

For the period from January 2019 to the most recent available data, please provide the following details relating to admissions involving the insertion of objects into the anus or vagina.

- **The total number of incidents recorded per year.**

Arrival Year	Number of patients
2019	28
2020	36
2021	47
2022	36
2023	38
2024	42
2025 up to 29/4	7

- **The age and gender of the individual involved in each incident (if available and anonymised).**

Please see our response in the table below. Please note that we have not provided the information in the requested format as we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified, when considered with other information that may be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of information would breach the Data Protection Act. Therefore please find that Section 40 (2) exemption contained within the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is engaged. Section 40 is the exemption for personal information.

Age at attendance	Number of patients (all female)
0	*
1	*

2	*
3	*
4	*
5	*
6	*
7	*
8	*
9	*
10	*
11	*
12	*
13	7
14	*
15	20
16	*
17	*
18	7
19	10
20	8
21	6
22	10
23	*
24	*
25	6
26	*
27	6
28	8
29	6
30	*
31	*
32	6
33	*
34	*
35	*
36	*
37	17
38	*
39	*
40	*
41	*
42	*
43	*
44	*
45	*
46	*

47	*
48	*
49	*
50	*
51	*
52	*
53	*
54	*
66	1
69	1
74	1
76	1
81	1

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

• **A brief description of the incident or nature of injury and if the insertion was accidental or deliberate (if available and anonymised).**

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.

• **The item used – including but not limited to sex toys, household objects, and food.**

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.

To assist in locating relevant records, the following diagnostic or classification codes may be useful where applicable:

ICD-10 codes (if applicable):

T18.3 – Foreign body in rectum

T18.4 – Foreign body in anus

T19.2 – Foreign body in vulva and vagina

ICD-11 codes (if applicable):

PL12.0 – Foreign body in anus and rectum

PL11.0 – Foreign body in vagina and vulva

ND52 – Contact with vibrator

SNOMED CT (if used):

289706006 – Foreign body in vagina

432504007 – Foreign body in rectum

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

