

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 25-319

19 May 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 the information you are requesting

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would like to request anonymised data relating to paediatrics

Specifically, we are requesting the following:

1. The total number of patients under the age of 18 diagnosed with osteosarcoma and treated at your hospital

2. Of these patients:

- The number who experienced a recurrence of cancer within 2 years of diagnosis.
- The number who experienced a recurrence within 5 years of diagnosis.
- The number who survived beyond 2 years.
- The number who survived beyond 5 years.

Finance Year	Total Patients	Survived beyond 2 years	Survived beyond 5 years
2018/19	8	6	6
2019/20	6	*	*
2020/21	8	6	0
2021/22	6	*	0

2022/23	9	9	0
2023/24	9	0	0

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local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

Please note we cannot provide information regarding the recurrence of cancer; this data is not conclusive as recurrence may have been reported at another hospital or not recorded here separate from the primary.

3. Where available, a breakdown of these outcomes based on:

- **Chemotherapy response (e.g. percentage necrosis $\geq 90\%$ vs $< 90\%$)**
- **Surgical margins (clear vs close or involved)**
- **Type of surgical intervention (e.g. limb-sparing vs amputation)**
- **Chemotherapy regimens used (e.g. MAP, MAPIE, or other)**

We understand that individual patients cannot be identified and that data may be anonymised or aggregated

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.

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