



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-169

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Quality, Safety and Compliance Department
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 9th July 2019

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 26th June 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Shunts (CSF Diversion).

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in your questions is not held centrally, but may be recorded in individual health records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for.

In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

Under section 16 of the FOI Act we are required to provide requestors with advice and assistance where possible. We would therefore like to advise you that if your request is shortened to just the total number of shunts performed we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame. In order to avoid delay to your response we have provided this below.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 We would like to request your Trust figures in terms of numbers of shunts (CSF Diversion) which maybe ventricular peritoneal shunt, lumboperitoneal shunt or any other form of CSF diversion in addition to the number of venous sinus stents performed for the diagnosis of idiopathic intracranial hypertension in 2018.

A1 Using the coding supplied by the Clinical Coding Team (see below for the list) - for 2018 the total number of shunts performed is 146, however we are unable to advise the reason for why the shunt was performed, sections 12 and 14 exemptions as detailed above.

A121	Ventriculocisternostomy	A144	Irrigation of cerebroventricular shunt
A122	Creation of ventriculovascular shunt	A145	Attention to cerebroventricular shunt NEC
A123	Creation of ventriculopleural shunt	A148	Other specified other operations on connection from ventricle of brain
A124	Creation of ventriculoperitoneal shunt	A149	Unspecified other operations on connection from ventricle of brain

A125	Creation of subcutaneous cerebrospinal fluid reservoir		
A128	Other specified creation of connection from ventricle of brain	A531	Cerebrospinal syringostomy
A129	Unspecified creation of connection from ventricle of brain	A532	Creation of thecoperitoneal shunt
A131	Maintenance of proximal catheter of cerebroventricular shunt	A533	Creation of syringoperitoneal shunt
A132	Maintenance of distal catheter of cerebroventricular shunt	A534	Creation of lumboperitoneal shunt
A133	Insertion of antisiphon device into cerebroventricular shunt	A535	Drainage of cerebrospinal fluid NEC
A134	Renewal of valve of cerebroventricular shunt	A536	Creation of lumbar subcutaneous shunt
A138	Other specified attention to component of connection from ventricle of brain	A538	Other specified drainage of spinal canal
A139	Unspecified attention to component of connection from ventricle of brain	A539	Unspecified drainage of spinal canal
A141	Renewal of cerebroventricular shunt		
A142	Revision of cerebroventricular shunt NEC		
A143	Removal of cerebroventricular shunt		

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

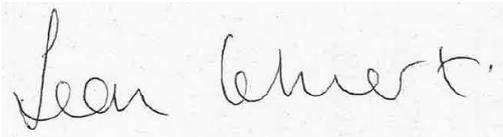
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



Jean Lehnert
Information Governance Manager