



**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

Royal Stoke University Hospital

Quality, Safety and Compliance Department

Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-778

Date: 5th April 2019

Tel: 01782 676474

Email FOI@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 29th November 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding venous leg ulcers.

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 questions 5, 6 and 7 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.

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 questions that 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 (UHNM) 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 Do you have a formal patient pathway for the management of venous leg ulcers? This refers to hospital acquired and community acquired leg ulcers.

A1 The Trust pathway has been developed and the documentation is currently being tested in practice prior to launch.

Q2 Do you have a multi-disciplinary team for the management of venous leg ulcers? If so can you list who is involved in that team?

A2 Please see below:

- Tissue Viability nurses
- Vascular nurses
- Vascular surgeons
- Lymphoedema specialist



- Dermatologists

- Q3 For patients with chronic leg ulcers can you state who would generally be the lead clinician on their care? This refers to the Trust Lead Clinician, this will not necessarily be the patient who is treating the clinician.**
- A3 Patients with chronic leg ulcers are treated by either the TVN or the vascular team depending on the aetiology and reason for admission.
- Q4 Do you have a lead clinician for venous conditions? If so, please provide a name, job title, postal address, email address and telephone number. This information would only be used for limited communications from the All-Party Parliamentary Group in the furtherance of its policy aim to improve venous care across the country.**
- A4 Please see below:
Sian Fumarola; Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist, Tissue Viability and Continence.
Nursing Directorate, Royal Stoke University Hospital
Please note that all Trust emails are in the following format: firstname.lastname@uhnms.nhs.uk
01782 675473
- Q5 How many patients with chronic venous leg ulcers did you treat in?**
- i) 2012/13,
 - ii) 2013/14
 - iii) 2014/15,
 - iv) 2015/16,
 - v) 2016/17,
 - vi) 2017/18
- Treat should be interpreted as meaning any kind of care administered to the ulcer- everything from the use of a plaster to a stent.
- A5 Section 12 exemption as detailed above
- Q6 How many surgical procedures related to venous leg ulcers has your Trust performed in**
- i) 2012/13,
 - ii) 2013/14,
 - iii) 2014/15,
 - iv) 2015/16,
 - v) 2016/17,
 - vi) 2017/18
- A6 As answer 5
- Q7 How many surgical procedures related to venous leg ulcers has your Trust performed in**
- i) 2012/13,
 - ii) 2013/14,
 - iii) 2014/15,
 - iv) 2015/16,
 - v) 2016/17,
 - vi) 2017/18
- A7 As answer 5

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

UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.

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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,



Leah Carlisle
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance