

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/253

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

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018

Tel: 01782 676474  
Email [FOI@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:FOI@uhn.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding protocols.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 As a Trust, what protocols do you have in place for managing patients to prevent infection in the patient pathway?**

A1 UHNM has infection prevention manual which is a live document, this is regularly updated with new information and is available electronically with a desktop icon visible on all Trust PCs. The same applies to the Trust Antimicrobial Guidelines

**Q2 Do you have a policy for routine testing for bacterial infections a) in all patients b) in high risk patients only?**

A2 MRSA screening is routinely undertaken for all adult emergency and elective admissions. There is a criteria for screening children. CPE screening is undertaken for emergency and elective admissions based on a set of criteria.

**Q3 Do you have a policy for routine testing for viral infections a) in all patients b) in high risk patients only?**

A3 The Trust does not have a policy for routine screening. However, during winter months routine Norovirus screening is undertaken on all stool specimens sent from emergency portals.

**Q4 Is isolation the protocol for high risk patients? If not, please can you confirm what protocols are in place?**

A4 Yes, isolation is undertaken as per the guidelines in the infection prevention manual

\*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.***

Where the Trust owns the copyright in information provided, you may re-use the information in line with the conditions set out in the Open Government Licence v3 which is available at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>. Where information was created by third parties, you should contact them directly for permission to re-use the information.

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](http://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**