



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-282

Royal Stoke University Hospital  
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Date: 17<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 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Foley catheters.

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 3 and 5 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 we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame. In order to avoid delay to your response we have provided this below.

On 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 we contacted you via email as we required a time frame for the information to begin and end at.

On 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018 you replied via email with the following:

*"I would like to clarify the questions. Could you please let us know the information for these questions from the creation of the Trust? I would also like to resubmit the request".*

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 What is the average length of time per patient to change a Foley catheter?**

A1 Within the Trust all catheters are checked daily to assess continuing need for a catheter. Duration is as per manufacturer's guidelines, as recommended in the hospital clinical nursing guidelines, and according to the medical assessment/requirement.

**Q2 Of those patients who have a Foley catheter, what proportion do you estimate will develop a CAUTI?**

A2 Information not held, however, according to the available literature (National Audit Office, 2004) 23% of all healthcare associated infections are urinary infections of which 80% are related to the presence of an indwelling urinary catheter.

**Q3 How many patients today have a CAUTI in your Trust?**

A3 Section 12 exemption as detailed above.

**Q4 On average (in days), when does the patient develop a CAUTI?**

A4 Information not held by the Trust, however information may be available the following link [www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/faqs/faqs-v-6\\_cauti.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/faqs/faqs-v-6_cauti.pdf)

**Q5 How many times a day (24 hours) do you assist patients with a CAUTI?**

A5 Section 12 exemption as detailed above.

\*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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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.



University Hospitals  
of North Midlands  
NHS Trust

Yours,

Mojgan Casillas  
Interim Information Governance Manager