



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-537

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

Date: 4th January 2019

Tel: 01782 676474
Email FOI@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 6th December 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding policies, procedures and guidance.

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 Please could you supply policies, procedures, guidance or any other relevant information regarding:

Infection control guidance provided to visitors, in-patients, outpatients and staff at such departments as the Cancer centre regarding coughs and colds etc., where there are likely to be patients with a suppressed immunity.

A1 The Trust displays banners at hospital entrances including the cancer centre; these contain advice regarding actions to take for visitors with coughs and flu like symptoms. The Infection Prevention manual contains guidance in regards to respiratory infections/symptoms. Please refer to the attached documents (please note we have only attached the relevant pages as per this question)

Q2 Contingency plans for outpatients for example the Cancer centre - needing to attend necessary and time bound treatment such as transfusions etc. should they be unable to attend appointments due to feeling unwell (for example coughs, colds etc.), adverse weather conditions or hospital closure.

A2 If it was due to a patient factor then we would have to assess on an individual basis with regards to clinical urgency and need.

We would have contingency plans in place for such adverse events as stated above using our Directorate Operational Policy (2017) along with Ward 202 Operational Policy (2009). Which are currently under review.

*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,



Leah Carlisle
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance