



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-700

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

Date: 11th March 2019

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 18th February 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding clinical coders.

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 How many clinical coders do you employ?

A1 Pleases see below:

- 38 WTE coders
- 2.85 WTE team leaders
- 4.6 WTE auditors and trainers

Q2 How many coders, employed by your Trust, hold the National Clinical Coding Qualification?

A2 14

Q3 Do your coders have targets for how quickly after a Finished Consultant Episode they should code it?

A3 At UHNM the codes targets are to be completed by midday on the 4th working day after month-end.

Q4 Do the coders code from the case notes or an Electronic Patient Record?

A4 Both case notes and Electronic Patient Record are used depending on ward and speciality

Q5 How often is a Payment by Results clinical coding audit conducted?

A5 Payment by Results audits are no longer required or carried out nationally.

Q6 Which clinical coding reference books do your clinical coders use (including the version)?

A6 Please see below:

- ICD10 5th Edition (2017) + 2018 updates added
- OPCS4 (2017) + 2018 updates added

*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.

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