



**University Hospitals  
of North Midlands**  
NHS Trust

**Royal Stoke University Hospital**  
**Data, Security and Protection**  
Newcastle Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST4 6QG

Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-238

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2022

Email [foi@uhnm.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhnm.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Defibrotide.

**The University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust is committed to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.**

**However, the NHS is facing unprecedented challenges relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic at the current time. Understandably, our resources have been diverted to support our front-line colleagues who are working tremendously hard to provide care for our patients, and to those in need of our services.**

**We strive to be transparent and to work with an open culture. But at this time, whilst care of our patients and the safety of our staff takes precedent, it is likely that responses to some requests for information will be delayed. We apologise for this position in advance, and will endeavour to provide you with as much information as we can, as soon as we are able.**

**The Information Commissioners Office has recognised the current situation in the NHS.**

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 We are a Healthcare agency working with the NHS and a number of other clients in the healthcare area. In accordance to the right of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would like to request information regarding the use of defibrotide for the treatment of Hepatic Veno-occlusive Disease at specific hospitals within this NHS Trust.**

**Please complete the attached spread sheet**

**Some of the information requested may be available from a reimbursement form (Blueteq form); these are also populated for other medicines and may be acquired either**



via contacting the Lead Pharmacist/Director of Pharmacy as first port of call, or the Trust Finance division/Procurement department.

We would prefer the answers for the specified hospital within the trust as per the tab in this Excel spread sheet. If you do not have the data at hospital level, please can you confirm which hospitals are included in the Trust's data?

The questions are laid out in this Excel spread sheet on the next tab

A1 UHNM has not given out defibrotide since November 2016 therefore information not held in the time frame requested; in addition UHNM has not coded any inpatient episodes with the clinical ICD10 coding of K765.

Therefore the answer to this FOI is nil for all questions as we have not "diagnosed" anyone with Hepatic Venous Occlusive Disease (ICD-10 K765).

Refer to the attached spread sheet that you supplied

\*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.

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.

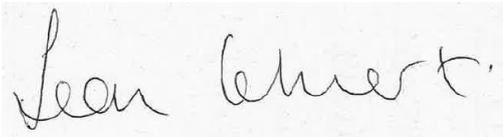
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and 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](http://www.ico.org.uk).

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



Jean Lehnert  
**Data, Security & Protection Manager**