

Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-312

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

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 7th September 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding patient transfers.

**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.**

On the same day we contacted you via email as we required the following clarification:  
What exactly you mean in the request? Please can you review your document and clarify what it is you mean?

Also we need to advise you we are not part of the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Partnership Trust, therefore if you want to withdraw this request please confirm this, or amend the document

On 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022 you replied via email with;  
'Sorry the other error was difficult.'

**January 2020 to January 2022**

*How many stroke patients were transferred for thrombolysis, thrombectomy or neurosurgery from University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Trust to University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust between the above dates?*

*Please indicate how many (if any) patients were accepted for transfer between the following times for each of these treatments (thrombolysis, thrombectomy or neurosurgery)?*

- 7am – 8am
- 8am-5pm
- 5pm-8pm

- 8pm-6:59am'

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 January 2020 to January 2022**

**How many stroke patients were transferred for thrombolysis, thrombectomy or neurosurgery from University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Trust to University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust between the above dates?**  
**Please indicate how many (if any) patients were accepted for transfer between the following times for each of these treatments (thrombolysis, thrombectomy or neurosurgery)?**

- 7am – 8am
- 8am-5pm
- 5pm-8pm
- 8pm-6:59am

**A1** Generally patients are not transferred for thrombolysis. If a patient requires thrombolysis, due to the small time window that this needs to be administered, most transferred patients will have already been given it before arriving at UHNM.

Stroke patients are transferred to us for Thrombectomy which we do capture on the Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme (SSNAP).

The University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Trust incorporates 4 hospitals which all have their own SSNAP teams. These are:

Team code	Team name
310	Birmingham Heartlands Hospital
308	Good Hope General Hospital
233	Queen Elizabeth Hospital Edgbaston
309	Solihull Hospital

Having looked on SSNAP, we don't appear to have ever had a Stroke patient transferred from any of the above hospitals, so the answer to the question as far as SSNAP is concerned is none.

\*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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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,



Leah Carlisle  
**Head of Data, Security & Protection/ Data Protection Officer**