



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-198

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Pain relief options during labour

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 I am making a freedom of information request for the following:**

- **Whether the Trust's maternity department offered remifentanil as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23**

**If the Trust did offer remifentanil as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23, if at any point this was not available and, if so and if possible to calculate, approximately how many days this was not available as an option for**

A1 It was in short supply in 2022 but we have discussed this answer with a Consultant anaesthetist and at no point was it unavailable on the Delivery Suite

**Q2 Whether the Trust's maternity department offered Entonox as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23**

**If the Trust did offer Entonox as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23, if at any point this was not available and, if so and if possible to calculate, approximately how many days this was not available as an option for**

A2 There is no point that entonox was unavailable

**Q3 Whether the Trust's maternity department offered sterile water injections as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23**

**If the Trust did offer sterile water injections as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23, if at any point this was not available and, if so and if possible to calculate, approximately how many days this was not available as an option for**

A3 Not applicable

\*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,





University Hospitals  
of North Midlands  
NHS Trust

**Rachel Montinaro**

Data Security and Protection Manager - Records

