

Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-267

Date: 23rd August 2023

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 27th July 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Implantable Ports and Access Needles.

On 31st July 2023 we contacted you via email as we require clarification on the specific following:

1. Is an implantable port classed as a "Picc Line"?
2. There are hundreds of access needles within NHSSC, potentially used in IR, Renal, Vascular etc. from a multitude of suppliers. Can we request more information please?

If possible could we ask for a further detailed description to enable us to identify the correct items?

On 2nd August 2023 you replied via email with:

'An implantable port is a type of intravenous (IV) access system that is inserted underneath the skin. It is sometimes called a Portacath or TIVAD (totally implanted venous access device). It consists of a fine tube, or catheter, connected to a small chamber with a self-sealing silicone membrane.'

Please see image below as reference –



Regarding access needles, these are the needles that are used to access the totally implantable port'

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 Information requested in respect of Implantable Ports**
Has your organisation purchased implantable ports between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023?
- A1 Yes
- Q2 If yes, to question 1a, please can you kindly provide a purchasing export report detailing the following relevant to implantable ports purchased between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023;**
- Manufacturer
 - Brand
 - Product Code
 - Description
 - Volume (in pieces)
 - Supply route for example, Direct, NHS Supply Chain etc
- A2 See attached spread sheet
- Q3 Which clinical area(s) insert implantable ports in your organisation?**
- A3 See attached spread sheet
- Q4 Has your organisation any data regarding the number of patients that had a port inserted between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023 that also required a high pressure injection contrast media scan?**
- A4 No
- Q5 Information requested in respect of Port Access Needles**
- Has your organization purchased port access needles between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023?
- A5 Yes
- Q6 If yes, to question 1b, please can you kindly provide a purchasing export report detailing the following relevant to port access needles purchased between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023;**
- Manufacturer
 - Brand
 - Product Code
 - Description
 - Volume (in pieces)
 - Supply route for example, Direct, NHS Supply Chain etc
- Question 3b**
Which clinical area(s) use port access needles in your organisation?
- A6 We have approached clinical coding to see if there was any clinical coding to identify those patients who had a port inserted, we were advised of the following OPCS codes...
- L94.3 Percutaneous transluminal insertion of subcutaneous port

- L94.4 Percutaneous transluminal replacement of subcutaneous port

However when we have looked to see how many patients had the port insertion by using the above coding and none were identified.

This will either mean we have actually not inserted any of these ports or that we are not actually coding them.

*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 671612.

Yours,



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records

