



**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 2023/24-722

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 26th January 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding policy

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 Please may I request a copy of your Trust policies for the following -**

**PICC line insertion, including contraindications for using a particular arm**

A1 Surgical Nurse Practitioners and Surgical Advanced Clinical Practitioners who work in the Surgical Division as part of their training to place PICC's they must undertake a study day delivered by BARD (BD) which as part of the training (see slide attached) it states that its contraindicated to use the arm of a patient following a mastectomy with lymph node removal.



## Contraindications for PICC's

- Pre-renal / dialysis patient (creatinine >3)
- Extremity affected by
  - Infection / loss of skin integrity
  - Compromised venous return
  - Paralysis
  - Mastectomy with lymph node removal
  - DVT in the extremity
  - Arteriovenous shunt/fistula



Q2 Use of arm on the same side as a mastectomy and lymph node removal, for blood pressure measurement, Venepuncture, cannulation, PICC line insertion

A2 As answer one- It is good nursing practice not to use a patients arm that has undergone a lymph node removal, for venepuncture, cannulation or blood pressure monitoring. This is part of general nurse training.

\*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](http://www.ico.org.uk).

Yours,



**Rachel Montinaro**  
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records