



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 2023/24-753

Date: 20th March 2024

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 8th February 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding causes of sudden cardiac death (SCD) in patients.

On 12th February 2024 we contacted you via email as we required a timeframe:

On 13th February 2024 you replied via email with:

'we apologize for not being clear the time frame for the first question is in the last five years.'

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 We are conducting research to determine the causes of sudden cardiac death (SCD) in patients with cardiac devices. Despite an estimated 50,000 to 70,000 annual SCD cases in the UK, post-mortem device checks are not routinely performed, leading to missed insights into the exact causes of these deaths. Our project aims to explore variations in current practices.
Therefore, we kindly are requesting information on your institution's post-mortem procedures related to patients with cardiac devices. We have attached a short questionnaire in line with the above-mentioned objectives.
We are extremely grateful for your support in distributing this to the relevant individuals in your institution.

A1 Refer to the attached document 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.

Yours,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records