



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-835

Date: 29th April 2024

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 5th March 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding guidelines

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 The subject is surrounding scaphoid fracture, so I am emailing to request if possible, the current guidelines/policy on the management of these fractures either when referred from ED or other areas to fracture clinic.

A1 The Department has a “T & O Guidelines” document which details Scaphoid fracture management.

Adapted extract below:

If a fracture is visible on initial x-rays, Clinician decides on conservative vs operative treatment. Indications to proceed to surgery:

- Displaced Fracture (waist and proximal pole), DISI deformity, Perilunate dislocation, Consider occupation and other associated injuries & non-unions.

If surgical management is required/appropriate discuss and refer to Hand Surgeons
If Non-union organise a CT

Conservative:

- Below elbow cast for 6 weeks (not scaphoid cast)
- Review at 6 weeks for clinical review and x-ray
- If no pain + signs of healing, mobilise and review in 6 weeks & Xray
- If painful and no signs of healing consider cast for further 2 weeks
- If at 8 weeks, still painful and no signs healing then CT scan and discuss with hand surgeons

For query scaphoid fractures where x-rays are normal but clinically painful scaphoid examination – a CT scan will be performed (scaphoid long axis). If CT negative, then discharge patient with open appointment. If positive, then treat as above.

*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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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