



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 2020/21-589b

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding our response to your FoI on cord -clamping

You emailed:

*"Can I just clarify are you saying you don't record the cord clamping time in any paper notes, which is what the foI was asking for you to audit?"*

***The University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust is committed to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.***

***However, the NHS is facing unprecedented challenges relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic at the current time. Understandably, our resources have been diverted to support our front-line colleagues who are working tremendously hard to provide care for our patients, and to those in need of our services.***

***We strive to be transparent and to work with an open culture. But at this time, whilst care of our patients and the safety of our staff takes precedent, it is likely that responses to some requests for information will be delayed. We apologise for this position in advance, and will endeavour to provide you with as much information as we can, as soon as we are able.***

***The Information Commissioners Office has recognised the current situation in the NHS***

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 Thank you for your reply, to make sure it is under the cost limit:**

**1. Please select a number of notes at random for the past 12 months.**

**Please tell me if the baby was term (over 37 weeks) or premature  
And if the cord -clamping time was:**

- 1. At 60 seconds or more**
- 2. Less than 60 seconds**



### 3. Or not recorded

**Please do this for the maximum number of patients under the allowed cost implication.**

A1 Please refer to our response to your FOI request reference 572-2021 sent 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021, alternatively a copy of this response will be available on the following link end April 2021

This information is exempt under section(s) 21: *information reasonably accessible by other means*, and section 22: *for future publication* via the Trust's public website at the following link:

<http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/about-us/regulatory-information/freedom-of-information-publication-scheme/freedom-of-information-disclosure-log/>

Amended answer:

We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being <5

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.

Row Labels	2018	2019	2020
<36+6	601	530	584
<1min	334	241	183
>=1min	259	284	396
Not Recorded	8	5	5
>37+0	5906	5900	5670
<1min	1475	1142	836
>=1min	4400	4737	4813
Not Recorded	31	21	21
Unknown Gestation	6	11	8
<1min	<5	5	<5
>=1min	<5	<5	<5
Not Recorded		<5	<5

Please note we are unable to obtain values prior to 2018 as maternity record was predominately paper notes  
New electronic maternity system introduced late 2017

**Caveat:**

- Where cord clamping has been done prior to 1minute there is clinical justification, such as: Resus, Preterm, Twin delivery, C-Section
- Where cord clamping is not recorded this is primarily due to Home births / Born before arrival / born in non-delivery locations

- Where Unknown gestation is noted – this is typically a result of concealed pregnancies, and where the mother hadn't previously booked their care with us

\*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.

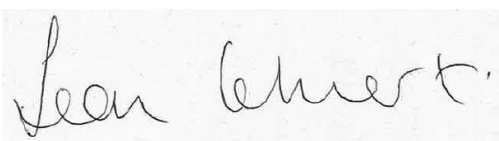
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and 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

Jean Lehnert  
**Data, Security & Protection Manager**

