



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-828

Date: 23rd May 2024

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 1st March 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Endometriosis

On 4th March 2024 we contacted you via email with the following:
To continue with your request we require clarification on the following:

Q3 As the first 2 questions relate to "Endometriosis" can we clarify if this question relates to Endometriosis referrals or any referral to Gynaecology?

Q4 As the first 2 questions relate to "Endometriosis" can we clarify if this question relates to Endometriosis referrals or any referral to Gynaecology?

On the same day you replied via email with:

"Q3 As the first 2 questions relate to "Endometriosis" can we clarify if this question relates to Endometriosis referrals or any referral to Gynaecology?"

Yes - this refers to endometriosis referrals

Q4 As the first 2 questions relate to "Endometriosis" can we clarify if this question relates to Endometriosis referrals or any referral to Gynaecology?"

Yes - this refers to endometriosis referrals'

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 number of women who have been diagnosed with Endometriosis between 2019 to 2023 (i.e. 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023)

A1 I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in health records (We do not record on Careflow patient's medical conditions therefore we are unable to identify patients who have been "diagnosed"). In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore

estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

Q2 Of these number of women diagnosed with Endometriosis, how many are (using the NHS Directory for Ethnic Categories):

- a) White British
- b) White Irish
- c) White - Any Other White Background
- d) Mixed - White and Black Caribbean
- e) Mixed - White and Black African
- f) Mixed - White and Asian
- g) Mixed - Any other mixed background
- h) Asian or Asian British - Indian
- j) Asian or Asian British - Pakistani
- k) Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi
- l) Asian or Asian British - Any other Asian background
- m) Black or Black British - Any other Black background
- n) Black or Black British-Caribbean
- p) Black or Black British - African
- n) Other ethnic groups - Chinese
- r) Other ethnic groups - Any other ethnic group
- s) Not Stated
- 99) Not Known

A2 I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in health records (We do not record on Careflow patient's medical conditions therefore we are unable to identify patients who have been "diagnosed"). In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

Q3 The number of female patients who have been issued/received referrals for gynaecological care at any of the local hospitals under your NHS Trust.

A3 Following the clarification, as the question relates to endometriosis referrals we do not record the reason for the referral therefore we are unable to state how many "endometriosis referrals" we have received.

Q4 The number of female patients awaiting a referral appointment (i.e. are still on the waiting list) for any hospital/specialist centre (whichever is applicable) under your NHS Trust for gynaecological care.

To avoid confusion, please specify for each category the exact number of female patients with endometriosis if the figure is less than 5 (i.e. avoid saying 1-5 and please state if the figure is 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5.)

A4 Following the clarification, as the question relates to endometriosis referrals we do not record the reason for the referral therefore we are unable to state how many “endometriosis referrals” we have received.

*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.



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Yours,

Rachel Montinaro

Data Security and Protection Manager - Records