

Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-455

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Quality, Safety and Compliance Department
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 15th November 2019

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 3rd November 2019 (received into our office 4th November) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding amputation operations.

On 4th November 2019 we contacted you via email as we required the following clarification:
Question 1, please can you confirm what you mean by a "list"?

Is this the total numbers of operations? Or just a statement to say we have undertaken partial leg amputations; finger amputations etc.... per year?

Or for every day over the last 10 years the procedures undertaken e.g. 01/01/2009 – leg amputation, finger amputation; 02/01/2009 – hand amputation, big toe amputation; 03/01/2009 – arm amputation, finger amputation etc.

On 5th November 2019 you replied via email with the following:
"Thanks for the email. A list of the total number of operations for each year is fine - and part 4 ('details of each incident') can be presumed to only refer to those cases which are relevant for part 2 and 3".

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 My request relates to problems that have occurred during amputation operations at hospitals under your jurisdiction.

I would like to request the following information:

1. A list of every amputation operation at your hospital over the past ten years

A1 We are unable to provide some of 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.
This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed. Please see below (as per your clarification above)

Site	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
County Hospital (Stafford)								
Amputation of Arm	0	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0
Amputation of Foot	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0	<5
Amputation of Hand	0	0	0	0	5	7	8	8
Amputation of Leg	0	0	0	0	0	<5	<5	0
Amputation of supernumerary finger NEC	0	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0
Amputation of Toe	0	0	0	0	11	7	16	13
Operations on amputation stump	0	0	0	0	<5	<5	<5	<5
Royal Stoke University Hospital - RSUH								
Amputation of Arm	<5	<5	6	<5	<5	5	<5	<5
Amputation of duplicate thumb	<5	0	0	0	<5	0	<5	<5
Amputation of Foot	18	7	18	34	73	58	38	36
Amputation of Hand	48	67	75	46	53	49	74	48
Amputation of Leg	62	71	75	104	112	127	126	139
Amputation of supernumerary finger NEC	5	5	11	5	8	<5	<5	6
Amputation of supernumerary toe	<5	<5	<5	<5	0	<5	<5	<5
Amputation of Toe	76	97	125	110	100	118	154	170
Operations on amputation stump	16	16	21	24	34	26	33	50

Q2 What is the amount of cases of the above that have resulted in claims of medical negligence?

A2 Nil

Q3 What is the amount of cases of the above that have resulted in your informing your insurers of a possible claim for medical negligence?

A3 Nil

Q4 Please provide the details of each incident.

I remind you that should there be any risk of identifying individuals, you may redact the documents or information and therefore still release it to me.

A4 Not applicable

*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.

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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.

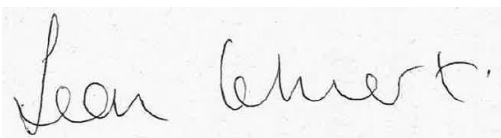
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



Jean Lehnert
Information Governance Manager