

Title
Physician associates (PAs) – procedures permitted to
perform.

Reference Number: RDF2382-24

Date of Response: 12/03/24

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please can you provide data on the number of physician associates (PAs) currently working in your hospitals that are permitted to perform each of the below procedures. Please can you provide the data in an Excel spreadsheet, in a table with the procedure in one column and the number of PAs qualified to perform the procedure in a second column.

- 1 *Arterial line insertion*
Answer: 0

- 2 *Central line insertion*
Answer: 0

- 3 *Chest drain*
Answer: 0

- 4 *Intubation*
Answer:0

- 5 *OesophagoGastroDuodenoscopy (OGD)*
Answer - 0

- 6 *Nerve blocks*
Answer:0

- 7 *Pleural tap*
Answer: *<5

- 8 *Surgical first assisting*
Answer: *<5

- 9 *Ring blocks*
Answer: 0

- 10 *Iliofemoral block*
Answer: 0

- 11 *Nasogastric (NG) tube placement*
Answer: 0

- 12 *Ascitic drain* Answer 0
- 13 *Ascitic tap*
Answer:0
- 14 *Joint aspiration*
Answer:0
- 15 *Lumbar puncture*
Answer: *<5 training to do this but not unsupervised)
- 16 *Pleural aspiration*
Answer: *<5

<5 Please note Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act

Where activity is 5 or less than 5, the Trust is unable to provide the exact information. We consider the data exempt on the following grounds:

The Trust considers that disclosure of the information risks identifying individuals. The reason for this is that the number of staff for which this applies is very low. This and the fact that the data requested relates to the RDUH NHS Trust only and therefore relates to staff in a specific location (rather than covering a larger geographical area). It also relates to staff working in a specialised position within the Trust. This increases the risk of identification or self-identification.

The Trust's view is that Section .40(2) is applicable because disclosure of information which could lead to an individual being identified would be a breach of their rights under the Data Protection Act Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the GDPR, namely Principle 1.