

Defective Diagnostic Equipment

Reference Number: RDF2333-24

Date of Response: 27/02/24

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

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please can you provide me with information on medical equipment at your Trust.

The number of procedures that were cancelled by your NHS Trust due to issues with defective diagnostic equipment in each of the calendar years a) 2019, b) 2020, c) 2021, d) 2022, e) 2023.

Answer: The Trust can neither confirm nor deny that the information requested is held and issues a refusal notice for this request under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act. The following exemptions also apply:

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) Cost limit

To establish if the information requested was held would require the manipulation and if appropriate manual extraction of information from patient records for each year specified in this request. To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving, and extracting that information.

Freedom of Information Act Section 40(2) Personal data

This data is not available in a reliable electronic format. As the only data that is held is part of a patient's medical record, this data would not be appropriate to release under FOI as it is personal data and would not be lawful or transparent to patients to view their records for this purpose. As such it is exempt under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act as it is in breach of Principle 1 of the UK GDPR.