

**Freedom of Information Request****Ref: UHB 18-102**

Date 22 February 2018

By Email

Dear Sir

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trusts response is as follows:

**For each of the hospitals in your trust that treat newborn babies, please can you provide any information you hold (such as protocol, local guidelines/advice etc), on when a newborn baby would normally receive a lumbar puncture when you are worried about an infection or sepsis. I am particularly interested if there is a local CRP (C-reactive protein) blood level at which a lumbar puncture is usually done.**

There is no specific protocol or local guideline followed at this Trust for the use of lumbar punctures in newborn babies. The Trust would consider a lumbar puncture for newborn babies when the CRP (C-reactive protein) blood level is more than 10 however, this decision is made by consultants depending on clinical condition and risk factors; therefore not all babies with just a CRP >10 will need a lumbar puncture.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Trust Secretary  
University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust  
Trust Headquarters  
Marlborough Street  
Bristol  
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

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To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely,

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