

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 18 -395

1. Radiology
2. Cardiology
3. Medical illustration
4. Theatres
5. Endoscopy
6. Colposcopy
7. Diabetic Retinopathy
8. Medical Photography
9. Dermatology
10. Podiatry

1. Radiology

- 1) How many CDs does your department produce per annum for the distribution of patient images?*
- images are sent to patients using a drop box link- so zero CDs**
- 2) How many CDs does your department produce per annum for interested 3rd parties such as insurance companies or solicitors?*
- 1288 CDs**
- 3) What is the cost of CD production for patient images, e.g. materials for your department per annum?
- Images sent via drop box**
- 4) What are the time/resource costs associated with CD production for patient images for your department per annum?*
- £1840.00 a year hourly rate divided by time taken average 7 mins times by number of Cds**
- 5) What are the costs of postage/couriering of CDs of patient images for your department, per annum?
- 1.99 per CD x 1288 = £2563.12**
- 6) Please provide a breakdown of total costs of CDs for patient images to other hospitals for your department, per annum?
- Images are sent on IEP images exchange portal**
- 7) Please provide a breakdown of total costs of CDs to patients for your department, per annum?
- Images sent via drop box link no CDs**

- 8) Please provide a breakdown of total costs of CDs to interested 3rd parties for your department such as insurance companies or solicitors, per annum?*

Cost to buy CD:

3.48 per 25 CDs 1288 CDs= £179.29

Total Postage costs (as per point 5 above)

1.99 per CD x 1288 = £2563.12

Total cost of CDs to interested 3rd Parties:£2,742.41

- 9) Are the CDs dispatched from your department that contain patient data consistently encrypted / password protected?*

No

- 10) Can you provide information on the number of CDs that are lost or misplaced before they reach the intended recipient?*

0

2. Cardiology

- 1) How many CDs does your department produce per annum for the distribution of patient images?*

ECHO Research – probably produce around 20 to 30 DVDs per year. This will vary on the number of studies that are running.

For Diagnostic purposes probably about 10 per year to copy to send to another hospital that cannot view via IEP although most images are sent via the IEP network.

MRI – 1-3 per year again most are sent via IEP.

Cardiology/Cath Labs – not applicable. There is no policy of providing CDs from the Cath Lab but the occasional clinically valid request for burning a CD is supported (eg patient moving to another area for treatment). Occasionally anonymised CDs are also burnt for medical education purposes.

- 2) How many CDs does your department produce per annum for interested 3rd parties such as insurance companies or solicitors?*

Echo – for medico legal requests probably about 1 – 2 per year, but this does include theatre TOES.

MRI – 0

Cardiology/Cath Labs – request would go to ECHO or MRI following complaint or other legal request.

- 3) What is the cost of CD production for patient images, e.g. materials for your department per annum?*

Echo – we have no time allocated to do any of this copying, cost would be around 30 minutes of Band 7 time per DVD. DVD costs are minimal but we charge a flat fee of £10 per DVD for medico legal purposes.

MRI – data not held.

Overall the costs are not easy to quantify as most images are shared via secure networks. It is very rare to have a request for a CD/DVD.

- 4) What are the time/resource costs associated with CD production for patient images for your department per annum?*

ECHO – DVD costs are minimal. Each DVD would cost about 30 minutes of Band 7 time.

MRI – managed internally – data not held.

- 5) What are the costs of postage/couriering of CDs of patient images for your department, per annum?*

ECHO – The sending of the DVDs to other units is via the secretarial staff. The sending out of the DVDs for research is via the research department. Most images are sent via IEP and it is very rare to send DVDs out to other centres/units.

MRI – data not held.

- 6) Please provide a breakdown of total costs of CDs for patient images to other hospitals for your department, per annum?*

ECHO – most are transferred via IEP.

MRI – data not held.

- 7) Please provide a breakdown of total costs of CDs to patients for your department, per annum?*

ECHO – please see above.

MRI – data not held.

- 8) Please provide a breakdown of total costs of CDs to interested 3rd parties for your department such as insurance companies or solicitors, per annum?*

ECHO – medico legal purposes we would charge £10 per DVD.

MRI data not held.

- 9) Are the CDs dispatched from your department that contain patient data consistently encrypted / password protected?*

ECHO – DVDs that are sent are in Dicom format without a Dicom header attached. Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) is the standard for the communication and management of medical imaging information and related data.

MRI – data not held.

10) Can you provide information on the number of CDs that are lost or misplaced before they reach the intended recipient?*

ECHO – none.

MRI – data not held.

3. Medical illustration

CDs are not used.

4. Theatres

CDs are not used as they are not compatible with computers in this department.

5. Endoscopy

CDs are not used as they are not compatible with computers in this department.

6. Colposcopy

This information is not held.

7. Diabetic Retinopathy

CDs are not used as they are not compatible with computers in this department.

8. Medical Photography

CDs are not used as they are not compatible with computers in this department.

9. Dermatology

This information is not held.

10. Podiatry

n/a – the Trust does not have a Podiatry service.