

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: UHB 18-368

Date 14 August 2018

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

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

For this year and each of the past five years please tell me the following information for your trust, broken down by hospital and year:

Please be advised the national collection of the enhanced FGM dataset began in April 2015 and there are only three years of national data. The Trust fully understands the importance of FGM identification and has been submitting data throughout this period, mandatory data items only.

1. The number of FGM cases in patients aged under 18s

15/16	16/17	17/18
**	Zero	**

Where the figures are fewer than 5, this has been denoted by **. Where numbers are low we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. Therefore under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we will not be disclosing this information at this time. Section 40 is the exemption for personal information

2. The type of FGM (type 1, 2, 3, or 4) in each of the above cases

Please be advised the FGM type is not always identified, but is submitted where known. Due to the low numbers however we are unable to disclose this information as we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified, when considered with other information that may be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of information would breach the Data Protection Act. Therefore please find that Section 40 (2) exemption contained within the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is engaged. Section 40 is the exemption for personal information.

3. The country where each patient in each of the above cases was born

Due to the low numbers we are unable to disclose this information as we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified, when considered with other information that may be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of information would breach the Data Protection Act. Therefore please find that Section 40 (2) exemption contained within the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is engaged. Section 40 is the exemption for personal information.

4. The number of cases of type 4 FGM due to genital piercing, broken down into two groups: patients aged under 18s and patients aged over 18

15/16	16/17	17/18
Zero	Zero	Zero

5. The country where each patient in each of the above cases (question 4) was born

The Trust does not record the country of birth of any of the adult patients.

Please note this information is published nationally and is available at the following link:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/female-genital-mutilation/female-genital-mutilation-fgm-annual-report-2016-17-pas>

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

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

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

Yours sincerely

FOI Team
UH Bristol NHS Foundation Trust