



**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: UHB 19-594**

11 October 2019

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

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

1. Does your hospital have an obstetric unit?

- a. Yes
- b. No

2. What is the number of births per year in your obstetric unit?

5,500

3. Do you use cell salvage in obstetrics?

- a. Yes
- b. No

4. In what situations is cell salvage used (tick any that apply)

- a. All caesarean sections
- b. category 1 caesarean section,
- c. category 2 caesarean section,
- d. category 3 caesarean section,
- e. category 4 caesarean section,
- f. caesarean section with high risk of haemorrhage,
- g. obstetric patients refusing blood transfusion,

5. What is the availability of cell salvage in your obstetric unit

- a. 24 hour,

- b. day-time only,
- c. depending on staff and/or equipment),

6. How many times per year over the last 5 years have you used cell salvage for collection only in your obstetric unit?

Year	Number of times CS used
2014	70
2015	40
2016	71
2017	91
2018	175

7. How many times per year over the last 5 years have you used cell salvage for collection and reinfusion in your obstetric unit?

Year	Number of times CS used
2014	60
2015	51
2016	45
2017	103
2018	131

8. Does your hospital obstetric unit have any concerns about using cell salvaged blood at caesarean section?

- a. Yes
- b. No

9. If yes to question 6, do your concerns relate to any of the following (tick all that apply)

- a. Infection risk
- b. Haemolytic disease in future pregnancy

- c. Cost
- d. Amniotic fluid embolism
- e. Need for broad spectrum antibiotics
- f. Availability of trained staff
- g. Availability of equipment
- h. Other (please state)

The Trust is aware of risks and perform Kleihauer and give anti D where relevant as per guidance to prevent rhesus disease in future pregnancies. We no longer use leucocyte depletion filters during return. We consider risk benefit for patients with sepsis and will be receiving antibiotics benefit likely to outweigh risk. We set up for any category of CS where haemorrhage anticipated.

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:

Director of Corporate Governance  
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**