

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: UHB 19-468**

6 August 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 Trust have a policy on the use of unlicensed medicines? Please answer Yes or No. If yes, please provide a copy of the policy and all other relevant documentation.

Yes, please see attached.

Please note that although a new policy exists, it is awaiting Policy Advisory Group approval, therefore the existing policy with a May 2019 review date is attached.

2. Does your Trust have a policy or protocol on obtaining informed consent from patients when an unlicensed medicine is used? Please answer Yes or No. If yes, please provide copies of all relevant documentation, including copies of template informed consent materials, used to consent patients where an unlicensed medicine is to be administered.

No, but please see section 4.2 (d) of the attached policy, prescribers responsibilities. The vast majority of unlicensed medicines use within this trust is in paediatric patients where the dose is referenced in the BNF-C.

3. Please state which Board level job role(s) is (are) responsible for patient safety and consenting.
  - a. If no Board level job role(s) is (are) responsible for patient safety and consenting, please state which job role in the organisation is responsible for this.

The Medical Director is responsible at Board level.

4. Does your Trust have, or intend to introduce, a policy that makes compounded bevacizumab routinely available to treat wet age-related macular degeneration? If Yes, please supply a copy of your policy.

No.

5. Over the past two years has your Trust, on more than one occasion, used compounded Avastin (bevacizumab) for the treatment of wet age-related macular degeneration? Please answer Yes or No.

No.

If yes to 5:

6. Was the compounded Avastin (bevacizumab) for the treatment of age-related macular degeneration produced within an aseptic department owned/run by the Trust? Please answer Yes or No.

N/A, answer to question 5 is No.

If yes to 6:

7. Does the Trust's aseptic department, referred to above, currently hold an MHRA license for the manufacture of specials? Please answer Yes or No

N/A, answer to question 6 is N/A.

8. When was the Trust's aseptic department, referred to above, in answer to Q5 last inspected by the CQC?

N/A.

If you answered no to question 5, but yes to question 4:

9. Please provide information regarding from whom your Trust has obtained/purchased compounded Avastin (bevacizumab). If you cannot provide the name of any commercial supplier, please provide as much information as possible.

N/A.

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**