

Date: 16/08/2018

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/014270 – Bacterial infections

1. As a trust, what protocols do you have in place for managing patients to prevent infection in the patient pathway?

The Trust has a number of policies and guidelines in place meeting the requirements under the Health and Social care Act for managing and prevent infections in the patient pathway. All staff receive infection prevention and control mandatory training

2. Do you have a policy for routine testing for bacterial infections a) in all patients b) in high risk patients only? -

The Trust has a variety of screening policies in place for a variety of organisms dependent on the patients history and the treatment they are expected to receive and the area of the hospital to which they will be admitted.

3. Do you have a policy for routine testing for viral infections a) in all patients b) in high risk patients only? -

Please see above response for question 2.

4. Is isolation the protocol for high risk patients? If not, please can you confirm what protocols are in place.

We isolate patients with previous alert organisms whilst they are screened again. There are occasional requirements for isolation before screening results are available in other settings for example when there was the concern over imported Ebola, but we do not routinely isolate individuals with the risks described without another issue being raised ie they have a clinical condition requiring isolation