

Date: 26/05/2021

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/015679 - ICU protocols

I would like to see any triage protocols for ICU (which specified who would be admitted and who would be denied care) that were in use between March 2020 and to date.

The Trust did not have any triage protocols for ICU.

During surges in demand for critical care beds over the last 12 months, all patients were allowed access if appropriate as additional capacity was created.

Critical Care capacity during the pandemic surges over the last 12 months, whilst beyond that normally available, allowed for all patients to have access to Critical Care if appropriate. Some patients were transferred to other hospitals to support providing such a service, in line with regional and national guidance.

All patients were cared for on an individual basis and decisions about escalation of care made in a similar way as they always are by senior clinicians (senior decision makers). We have produced guidance for clinicians to aid this decision making. This includes using the physical and physiological aspects of an individual patient based on guidance published by the Intensive Care Society.