

Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-022024-000619

Date: 29/02/2024

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act. I am a medical student undertaking a clinical audit of the normal ranges of liver function tests, and how these normal ranges were developed across the UK, with the intention of publication. This information should be readily available through your clinical biochemistry or pathology department.

I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following:

1. The normal range (adults and children) for the following liver enzymes: alanine transaminase (ALT), aspartate transaminase (AST), alkaline phosphatase and gamma GT.
2. The method and machine used with reference so it can be identified.
3. How was your local normal range determined?
 1. From the reference range specified by the manufacturer
 2. By the lab of a large group of normal volunteers
 3. From historical data
 4. Other – please describe.
5. Do your liver function tests automatically include measurement of AST?
6. How many sets of liver function tests, which include measurement of ALT and alkaline phosphatase, does your hospital or laboratory complete each year? How many patients does this represent?
7. How many requests for measurement of AST does your hospital or laboratory complete each year? How many patients does this represent?
8. How many values exceed the upper limit of normal for each liver function test?
9. If you do not hold this information because you consider the analyses to be done externally by an outside laboratory, please provide the name of the laboratory and email address for their FOI officer.

Response

The Trust is now part of The Black Country Pathology Services.

The Black Country Pathology Services (BCPS) partnership will integrate pathology services at The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT), with Sandwell West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust (SWBH), Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust (DGH) and Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust (WHT). The BCPS will be hosted by RWT on behalf of the partnership.

BCPSpathology.info@nhs.net

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager
Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
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DY1 2HQ
Email: dgft.dpo@nhs.net

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust