

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

**Ref:** FOI-102023-000412

**Date:** 23<sup>RD</sup> February 2024

**Address / Email:**

**Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please see response below.

In 2022 I sent you a FOI request asking how you treated conditions, or probable or suspected conditions listed as i-iii) below?

i) Pandas (Paediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections) ii) PANS (Paediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome) iii) immune mediated neuro behaviour conditions.

**Q1) Tell me whether the Trust/ Hospitals treatment and diagnostic criteria has changed as a result of the working group statement. If it has, please can you send me the copies of the new policy/ procedure for treatment and diagnostic pathway.**

We do not have a local guideline/written policy/procedure for the management of this condition.

**2 a) Please could you also provide for each condition or probable/ suspected condition i)-iii) above the number of paediatric patients presenting with these conditions for each year for the past 1 year? –**

The Trust is unable to provide information on probable/ suspected or presenting condition, we can only run a report for patients who have been admitted into hospital and where clinical coding has been assigned to their inpatient stay.

**& b) how many patients were referred to another service outside of the trust.**

For the Trust to know if a patient has been referred elsewhere in connection with a specific treatment/condition individual records would need to be looked at and these are exempt under exemption Section 40 of the Act, Personal Information.

**3) Please could you provide me with any minutes of meetings which decided how patients are treated following the British Paediatric Neurology Association update on the working group in February 2023 and who made the decision to implement any changes.**

There has been no formal meeting in this regard. Individual consultants are able to get advice from neurology colleagues at Birmingham Childrens Hospital.

**4a)) Whether the Trust/ Hospital has sought commissioning to treat this cohort of patients and b) who did it approach e.g ICB or NHSE and c) whether this was approved or rejected along with the reasons why or timescales for implementation if relevant.**

The consultant has advised that he is not aware of any commissioning to treat these conditions at The Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

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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West Midlands  
DY1 2HQ  
Email: [dgft.dpo@nhs.net](mailto: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](http://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**