

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

Ref: FOI-022025-0001438

Date: 11.3.25

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

In June 2022 NHS England published a document entitled 'Improving the blood culture pathway' which included a few recommendations regarding blood culture collection and data that should be collected and reported on at Board level. Can you please provide me with answers to the following questions:

1. Does your Trust have a process for skin preparation/cleaning prior to blood collection? - Yes
2. Do you take two sets of blood cultures each time as recommended in the guidance? - Yes
3. If no, what percentage of patients do have two sets of blood cultures taken? - N/A
4. Do you measure the volume of blood taken each time a blood culture is taken (the recommended amount is 20ml per sample)? - Yes
5. Do you measure the time between blood sample collection and the sample being loaded onto an analyser instrument (the recommended maximum time is four hours)? - Yes
6. If yes, what is the average time? - Blood cultures are sent to the labs immediately, tested within 2 hours unless requested as time sensitive.
7. Do you collect data on blood sample contamination? - No
8. Is the data described above reported at Board level as recommended? - Yes

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
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

FOI/REF FOI-

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