

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

**Ref:** FOI-042025-0001532

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**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.

I would be grateful if you could answer the following questions.

**1. How many times have you been successfully sued for medical negligence in the last 5 years?**

**2. How much money have you paid out in compensation for successful medical negligence claims?**

**Questions 1 and 2** - This information is collated by NHS Resolution.  
Freedom of Information requests to NHS Resolution can be made via  
<https://resolution.nhs.uk/freedom-of-information/>

**3. Following your £2.5 million fine for treatment of sepsis, what measures have you put in place to improve your practice?**

- Merger of resuscitation and sepsis teams to create Deteriorating Patient Team (DPT). Providing governance, education, assistance and specialist advice in the clinical areas reporting upwards to the Deteriorating patient Group.
- UK Sepsis Trust (UKST) Screening & action tools utilised following the release of NG51 initially on paper and launched electronically September 2018 in acute areas (remain on paper in community).
- Digital review and development of clinical processes utilised in identifying an accurate time zero for deteriorating patients and embedding the need to screen for sepsis following the NHSE PIER framework (Prevent, Identify, Escalate, Response) into part of the Deteriorating patient pathway (DPP) launched November 2022 and aligning with the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC) and UKST guidance. Facilitating visual identification & escalation via electronic tracking boards and countdown timers to identify time critical treatment or review required.
- National early warning scores and Martha's rule wellness questions (national pilot site) incorporated into DPP generating clinical risk and response required for adults, maternity and paediatrics.

- Sepsis education incorporated into trust induction, medical education programmes & inductions, maternal PROMPT course, pre & post-registration nursing courses.
- All annual statutory mandatory resuscitation training includes management of deterioration and sepsis patients, to compliment the sepsis elements in all the national Resus Council UK courses (ALS, ILS, EPALS & PILS) & Acute Illness Management (AIM) delivered by DPT within this organisation.
- DPT incorporate sepsis as part of their RADAR (Recognise Acute Deterioration, Action & ReSPECT) clinical education programme.
- Patient safety bulletins released focusing on sepsis, dedicated page on intranet with resources for staff to access & patient leaflets available to print.
- Sepsis link nurses re-launched as deteriorating patient champions across acute areas to signpost staff & patients to resources available to support them.
- Staff & public awareness increased with promotions at main reception for annually on World Sepsis Day, other focus points within World Safety Day, Trust AGM and speaking to community & youth groups. Collaboration with ICB is encouraging the same language across the community.
- Digital assurance dashboards created for clinical areas to monitor and improve own compliance providing live and historical data to aid learning.
- DPP and sepsis data reported to the Deteriorating patient group bi-monthly, monthly division governance meetings and upwardly reported to Risk and assurance and quality groups and trust board.
- Organisation participates within the AQUA programme for sepsis with monthly analysis and action plans, benchmarking performance against other organisations. Monthly sepsis review meetings in ED.
- Trust wide Patient group directives (PGD's) for sepsis of unknown origin and Neutropenic sepsis.
- Sepsis order-sets developed to facilitate rapid identification & ordering of the most appropriate antimicrobial therapy and rapid ordering of a full profile of bloods & specimens.
- Participate in the UK Sepsis Practitioner Forum to facilitate networking and sharing of good practice and learning from other organisations.

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  
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**