

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

**Ref:** FOI-082024-0001055

**Date:** 8.7.25

**Address / Email:**

Dear

**Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

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

**1.Post-procedural Endophthalmitis Monitoring or audit:**

Is there a policy/pathway in place for monitoring or regularly auditing the rates of post-cataract endophthalmitis in your organisation?

(Please provide reports from this process as electronic copies or appropriate weblinks if the information is already available to the public)

***Yes – There is a policy to log post-cataract endophthalmitis cases on the Trust's incident reporting system, this process started 1st May 2024.***

***Also, we record any case of post-procedural endophthalmitis taken to Theatre for intravitreal injections and biopsy in a Theatre Book.***

***There are currently no incidents recorded on our incident reporting system.***

~~No~~

**2.Endophthalmitis Treatment Policies and Pathways**

Do you have a treatment policy for post-cataract presumed infectious endophthalmitis in your hospital detailing timing of treatment, investigations or antibiotic regimes?

**Yes – The Trust has a treatment policy for post-cataract presumed infectious endophthalmitis. This explains the treatment guidelines, investigations and antibiotic regimes for treatment of endophthalmitis. A paper-copy of this is always available in the Operating Theatre. Electronic copy of the same is attached with this response.**

~~No~~

**3.Cases of Endophthalmitis:**

Please could you list the cases of suspected post-cataract surgery endophthalmitis which were recorded across the four NHS Audit years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. The purpose of this request is to cross-reference these cases with those reported to the National Ophthalmology Database. To do this we require the list of cases with:

the date of the cataract surgery that resulted in suspected endophthalmitis  
the location where the cataract surgery was performed

the date of diagnosis of suspected endophthalmitis  
the laterality of affected eye (right or left)

Additionally, if your hospital has treated any patients for suspected endophthalmitis originating from cataract surgeries performed at another facility, please include these cases as well. It is essential to clearly indicate the location where the cataract surgery was undertaken.

**- The Trust does record/code for suspected conditions so we are unable to provide this information**

**4. Microbiology and Antimicrobial Resistance:**

There may be changing patterns of infective agents or emerging strains of resistant bacteria. We therefore request information on each case from the microbiology report:

What sample was sent to microbiology (vitreal biopsy or anterior chamber tap)?

What are the microbiology culture or PCR results for the recorded cases of endophthalmitis? (please include negative results of "no growth")

What antimicrobial resistance was reported from these cultures?

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

**The Black Country Pathology Services (BCPS) Partnership integrates pathology services and is based at The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT) for Sandwell West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust (SWBH), The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust (DGH) and Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust (WHT). The Black Country Pathology Service is hosted by RWT on behalf of the Partnership.**

**Therefore, please can you forward your request to The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust**  
[rwht.FOI@nhs.net](mailto:rwht.FOI@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  
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**

