

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

**Ref:** FOI-032025-0001464

**Date:** 29.4.25

**Address / Email:**

Dear

**Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

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

Request

Consider my email as a request for the Trust's IV cannulation policy which INCLUDES breakages of cannulas in the body, under the Freedom Of Information Act 2000.

Response

The Trust provides comprehensive training to all staff required to carry out cannulations which includes the causes and management of cannula breakage while in the body – please note that this is technically referred to as a 'cannula embolism'. Below is an extract from the Trust competency assessment documentation used as part of cannulation training and assessment which includes the reference to cannula embolus

*The Practitioner observes the patient for complications and can discuss the signs/ symptoms and necessary management of the following:*

- *Infiltration (swelling, blanching- remove and re-site the cannula, document and observe)*
- *Extravasation (swelling, burning, itching, redness, ulceration- medical review, attempt aspiration, medical review, document and observe, remove if no antidote and re-site)*
- *Phlebitis (redness, pain, and swelling)*
- *Cannula embolus (application of tourniquet and escalation as medical emergency)*

Staff are also supported by a variety of documentation and guidelines which can be accessed via the Trust intranet at any time. This includes training material provided by Braun and access to a set of comprehensive guidelines covering all aspects of cannula management which are provided by The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust. Unfortunately, due to this information being copyright protected, we are unable to provide you with a copy of this documentation.

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

FOI/REF FOI-

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**