

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

**Ref:** FOI-122023-000525

**Date:** 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**Address / Email:**

Dear

**Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

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

**1. Please confirm if any virginity testing training has been provided for DGFT staff in accordance with the Multi Agency guidance since 01 July 2022, and if so when this was provided, what it consisted of, and to whom it was provided.**

Training was offered via NHS England and communicated to the Trust in November 2022. The illegal practice of carrying out Virginity Testing is included in our domestic abuse policy under honour-based violence and forced marriage.

**2). If no, are there any plans to arrange appropriate training as advised by governing bodies?**

**3) The law on this changed 1.7.22, were staff told of the change?**

There was no direct communication from the safeguarding team with the exception of sharing the NHSE training. The RCOG informed their members in August 2021 via a position statement.

**4). Who is a lead person in the Trust, whose role includes responsibility for virginity testing and hymenoplasty, please?**

There is no one in the Trust responsible for virginity testing, however every person has a responsibility to keep up to date with professional developments including changes to their practice intended to safeguard patients from harm.

**5). What type of training regarding virginity testing this person has, please?**

n/a

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**