

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

Ref: FOI-102024-0001206

Date: 04/11/2024

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

Request

How many incidents of a retained foreign object post-procedure were logged by your Trust in the past five years?

By 'retained foreign object post procedure', I refer to retained guide wires, mouth props, surgical instruments, needles, vaginal swabs, throat packs, etc.

Please break down this information by

- The retained item.
- The financial year, covering April 1st - March 31st (2019/20, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25). For the latter, please provide information from April 1st to September 30th, 2024

Response

The following figures are based on the specific category for Retained Object Post Procedure.

Financial Year	Total
2019/2020	<5
2020/2021	0
2021/2022	0
2022/2023	0
2023/2024	0

As per NHS Digital rules the Trust does not publish numbers lower than 5 as this could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved and cause distress to friends and families. The number of incidents of a retained foreign object post-procedure within the requested timeframe is less than 5 therefore exemption S40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act has been applied.

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.

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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