

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

Ref: FOI-112024-0001279

Date: 29/11/2024

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

Request

1. Number of blood cultures taken from patients in intensive care units in your Trust that grew coagulase-negative staphylococci (including coagulase-negative staphylococci that were identified to species level) from January 2023 to December 2024.
2. Please confirm whether in your Trust antimicrobial susceptibility testing data is routinely available for all coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates or only for those deemed to be a cause of infection.
3. If antimicrobial susceptibility testing data is available for all coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates, please indicate how far back in time and for what time period is the antimicrobial susceptibility testing data available.
4. Please confirm the antimicrobial susceptibility testing method used in your Trust, e.g. disc diffusion, Vitek 2, and whether EUCAST or CLSI interpretative criteria are used.
5. Please confirm whether coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates in your Trust are routinely retained in the laboratory, e.g. on beads or on slopes.
6. If yes to Question 5, indicate how far back in time and for what time period coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates are available. Please indicate if only select isolates are available, for example, those considered to be a cause of bloodstream infection.
7. Does your Trust use whole-body skin bacterial decontamination for all or selected patients?
8. With respect to whole-body skin decontamination, please confirm to which hospital patient groups this is administered, e.g. all admissions, only high-impact acute specialities, only MRSA-positive patient. Please provide the relevant Trust policy/guideline.

Response

For questions 1 to 6 please direct your request to RWT, the Trust is now part of The Black Country Pathology Services. The Black Country Pathology Services (BCPS) partnership will integrate pathology services at The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT), with Sandwell West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust (SWBH), Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust (DGH) and Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust (WHT). The BCPS will be hosted by RWT on behalf of the partnership. Please direct your request to Black Country Pathology Services the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust rwh-tr.bcpsquality@nhs.net.

Questions	Responses
Q1. Number of blood cultures taken from patients in intensive care units in your Trust that grew coagulase-negative staphylococci (including coagulase-negative staphylococci that were identified to species level) from January 2023 to December 2024.	
Q2. Please confirm whether in your Trust antimicrobial susceptibility testing data is routinely available for all coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates or only for those deemed to be a cause of infection.	
Q3. If antimicrobial susceptibility testing data is available for all coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates, please indicate how far back in time and for what time period is the antimicrobial susceptibility testing data available.	
Q4. Please confirm the antimicrobial susceptibility testing method used in your Trust, e.g. disc diffusion, Vitek 2, and whether EUCAST or CLSI interpretative criteria are used.	
Q5. Please confirm whether coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates in your Trust are routinely retained in the laboratory, e.g. on beads or on slopes.	
Q6. If yes to Question 5, indicate how far back in time and for what time period coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates are available. Please indicate if only select isolates are available, for example, those considered to be a cause of bloodstream infection.	
Q7. Does your Trust use whole-body skin bacterial decontamination for all or selected patients?	For selected patients only
Q8. With respect to whole-body skin decontamination, please confirm to which hospital patient groups this is administered, e.g. all admissions, only high-impact acute specialities, only MRSA-positive patient. Please provide the relevant Trust policy/guideline.	Please find attached the Management of MRSA Policy.

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

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