

Trust Headquarters located at:

The County Hospital

Hereford

HR1 2ER

freedom.information@wvt.nhs.uk

INFORMATION REQUEST FOI2022/228

13 September 2022

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request.

Dear Freedom of information team,

I am gathering information about management of babies at risk of neonatal sepsis in the uk.

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information:

Is your trust involved in the medical care of infants in the first 72 hours of life?

If no please answer only the above question and respond to this request

If yes, I would be grateful if you could also answer the following:

1. Do you have a guideline for the investigation and treatment of early onset infection/sepsis in neonates (names will vary)?
2. Does your guideline use NICE or Kaiser Permanente criteria for assessment of infants at risk of early onset neonatal sepsis?
3. Within your early onset neonatal sepsis guideline what are the indications for lumbar puncture?
4. How many lumbar punctures has your trust carried out in infants under 72 hours of age in the last 12 months?
5. How many of these had positive CSF cultures (not including bacterial PCR)?
6. How many infants under 72 hours of age were diagnosed with meningitis in the last 12 months in your trust?
7. How many infants between 72 hours of age and 7 days of age were diagnosed with meningitis in your trust?

I have considered your request and have set out the Trust's response below:

1. The network guideline on infection in 1st 72 hours of life
2. NICE only at the moment
3. Clinical concern/symptoms to suggest meningitis or if asymptomatic CRP >60
4. 11
5. 0
6. Less Than 6*
7. 0

* Please note that the exact number of patients has been withheld and instead a range of below 6 has been provided, as this relates to a low number. Statistically low information can potentially identify individuals' data, especially due to the rural nature and low population of the county. It would be, in my view, possible to identify

them if this data were to be provided to you. The data therefore consists of personal data and as such has been withheld under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please note that a record of previous Trust FOI responses is now available to consult online by visiting:

<https://www.wyvalley.nhs.uk/about-us/information-requests/freedom-of-information-requests.aspx>

If you have queries or any concerns my contact details are given at the top of the letter. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications. If you are dissatisfied with the handling or response to your request and wish to ask for a review of this, please contact me and I will arrange this to be done.

Further information is available from the Information Commissioner's Office who can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
Telephone: 0303 123 1113 Web site: www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Coordinator

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