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Request for Information Reference: 10.23.63

FOI Direct line: 01325 743700  
Email: [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net)

Email only

13<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information**

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to Emergency Admissions & Sepsis Screening and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

**I am writing to request the following information from your NHS trust:**

**Performance data against the following two metrics, for the financial years 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23:**

- **Proportion of service users presenting as emergency admissions who undergo sepsis screening and who, where screening is positive, receive IV antibiotic treatment within one hour of diagnosis**
- **Proportion of service user inpatients who undergo sepsis screening and who, where screening is positive, receive IV antibiotic treatment within one hour of diagnosis**

**Please provide the performance data by**

- 1) **proportion of service users presenting as emergency admissions who undergo sepsis screening**

The Trust does not centrally record this information and estimates that it would take a significant amount of time to gather the information requested. In order to gather this information it would require a member of staff to manually examine the sets of patient's notes. Therefore, we are refusing this section of your request for information pursuant to section 12 of the Act on the grounds that we estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit at the present time is £450.00 which equates to eighteen hours of work by a member of staff at the rate of £25 per hour.

**2) the proportion of those patients who, where screening is positive receive IV antibiotic treatment within one hour of diagnosis,**

The Trust undertakes a randomised sample of 50 patients from both acute sites within the trust to assess performance. Please see attachments:  
Attachment 1 - ED Inpatient results 2019 to 2020  
Attachment 2 - ED Inpatient results by quarter and year 2020 to 2021  
Attachment 3 - ED Inpatient results by quarter and year 2021 to 2022  
Attachment 4 - ED Inpatient results by quarter and year 2022-23 & 2023-24

**3) The proportion of service user inpatients who undergo sepsis screening**

Within the time frame requested the Trust used the Nervecentre system. The Trust screened 100% of all inpatients.

**4) the proportion of those patients who, where screening is positive receive IV antibiotic treatment within one hour of diagnosis.**

The Trust did not measure the proportion of inpatients that received IV antibiotic treatment within one hour of diagnosis.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs).

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk).



County Durham  
and Darlington  
NHS Foundation Trust

Yours sincerely

**Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator**