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Request for Information Reference: 11.23.36

FOI Direct line: 01325 743700
Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

27th November 2023

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 10th November 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 MRI scans and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

Please provide the above information for the five financial years ending 2021/22. Please provide the information in the form of an electronic letter.

Please may you provide me with:

- 1. The number of MRI scans performed for the following,
Central Nervous System**
 - **Brain**
 - **Spine**
 - **Other Surrounding Tissue**
 - **Whole Body**
 - **Head & Neck**
 - **Thorax, including Breast**
 - **Abdomen, including Liver & Kidneys**
 - **Pelvis, including Prostate**
 - **Musculo-skeletal system**
 - **Other**

- Cardiac
 - Angiography
2. **The number of MRI scans for the above listed investigations using a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent(s)**

Please see the attached Spreadsheet. The Trust has forwarded the complete list as it does not gather the information in the way that you have requested.

3. **The average number of doses of a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent(s) per scan**

The Trust has no way of accessing the number of doses per exam.

4. **The number of rescans, which are performed due to the outcome of a poor-quality image when using a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent in the initial scan.**
5. **The number of reports required due to the outcome of a poor-quality image when using a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent in the initial scan.**

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 for each patient that received a scan. 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.

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.

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.

Yours sincerely

Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator