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Request for Information Reference: 12.23.54

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Email only

8th January 2024

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 21st December 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 Enteric Samples Tested and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

I am writing to you for information relating to enteric samples tested within the Dept of Microbiology at CDDFT.

Please could you provide figures for the years listed below against the questions listed 1-10.

1. How many patient cases of infection due to Giardia were reported?

- **2018** - 8
- **2019** - 8
- **2020** - 1
- **2021** - 3
- **2022** - 4

2. How many patient cases of infection due to C.difficile were reported?

- **2018** - 81
- **2019** - 82
- **2020** - 89

- **2021** - 90
- **2022** - 95

3. How many tests for C.difficile were undertaken?

- **2018** - 5504
- **2019** - 5693
- **2020** - 4740
- **2021** - 5126
- **2022** - 5767

4. How many samples were not tested for C.difficile due to the appearance/description of the sample? (sample type = semi-formed).

- **2018** - 1534
- **2019** - 1625
- **2020** - 1293
- **2021** - 1487
- **2022** - 1566

5. How many enteric samples in total were received?

- **2018** - 18014
- **2019** - 18878
- **2020** - 13738
- **2021** - 17758
- **2022** - 20045

6. How many patients who tested positive for C.difficile toxin had recent prior samples (<1 month) that had been rejected because of the sample description? (sample = semi-formed)

- **2018** - 4
- **2019** - 4
- **2020** - 5
- **2021** - 9
- **2022** - 4

7. How many molecular tests for the detection of C.difficile were performed? (Cepheid).

- **2018** - 252
- **2019** - 249
- **2020** - 287
- **2021** - 406
- **2022** - 447

8. What is the unit cost of the molecular C.difficile test?

- **2018** - £26.33
- **2019** - £26.32
- **2020** - £26.32
- **2021** - £26.32
- **2022** - £26.32

9. When did CDDFT start accepting semi-formed samples for C.difficile tests? (date of first test).

Agreement with IPC to test semi-formed with high suspicion 3/7/23 prior to approval and implementation of business case (fully approved Dec 23)

Full laboratory implementation with respective IT changes for all service users 2/1/24

10. How many investigations for OCP were performed?

- **2018** - 1299
- **2019** - 1205
- **2020** - 373
- **2021** - 290
- **2022** - 778

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