

Executive Corridor
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX
Switchboard Tel: 01325 38 0100
Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 02.19.22

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

Email only

11 March 2019

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 12 February 2019 in relation to the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (Trust). We are dealing with your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested information regarding the point of care facilities. Specifically you requested information as follows:

To be mapped against deaths from MRSA and c. diff in each NHS Trust area.

- 1. *What point of care facilities does your Trust have for the diagnosis of:***
 - a. Group A streptococcal bacteria***
 - b. Influenza virus***
 - c. Clostridium difficile***
 - d. Staphylococcus aureus***

Answer: The Trust does not currently provide point of care testing (on the wards/depts.) for any of the above organisms. Our testing is all laboratory based.

- 2. *Does your Trust require diagnostic tests before prescribing:***
 - a. Penicillins***
 - b. Aminoglycosides***
 - c. Tetracyclines***
 - d. Macrolides***
 - e. Co-amoxiclav***
 - f. Cephalosporins***
 - g. Carbapenems***
 - h. Quinolones***

Answer: The Trust does not require a diagnostic test before prescribing any of the listed antibiotics

3. What plans do your Trust have to procure new diagnostic equipment using the additional funding for additional diagnostic equipment and staff capacity?

Answer: The only additional funding that the Trust has had access to recently has been from the North East & North Cumbria Urgent and Emergency Care Network Winter Funding 2018/19 Offer for equipment and reagents to introduce 24/7 Influenza and norovirus testing at the acute sites.

We are not aware of any additional funding for other diagnostic equipment or staff capacity.

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. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust website.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review by writing to:

The Chief Executive
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX

If, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Website: www.ico.gov.uk.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer