

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

Suite 9 Buckingham Row Brick Kiln Lane Wigan WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2024/10208

Date Received: 16th October 2024

Response Due: 13th November 2024

Date: 31st October 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 16th October 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

- 1. Do you offer NHS funded fertility treatments? (Y/N) Yes.
- 2. If the answer to question 1 is yes, please provide the number of patients treated and total number of cycles completed at your Trust, through NHS funding, for each of the last three financial years, specifically for the following fertility treatments:
 - a. IVF (in-vitro fertilisation, including frozen embryo and fresh embryo transfer, ICSI (intracytoplasmic sperm injection))
 - b. IUI (intrauterine insemination, including donor insemination)
 - c. Egg freezing
 - d. Embryo storage

Treatment	FY2021/22		FY2022/23		FY2023/24			
	Total patients	Total cycles started	Total patients	Total cycles started	Total patients	Total cycles started		
IVF	167	431	114	295	181	367		
IUI	25	54	14	48	14	39		
Egg freezing	This information is being withheld under Section 12 of the							
Embryo storage	Freedom of Information Act, please see below.							

- 3. Do you offer privately funded fertility treatments? (Y/N) Yes.
- 4. If the answer to question 3 is yes, please provide the number of patients treated and total number of cycles completed at your Trust (including in any Private Patient Unit), through private funding, for each of the last three financial years, specifically for the following fertility treatments:
 - a. IVF (in-vitro fertilisation, including frozen embryo and fresh embryo transfer, ICSI (intracytoplasmic sperm injection))
 - b. IUI (intrauterine insemination, including donor insemination)
 - c. Egg freezing
 - d. Embryo storage

Treatment	FY2021/22		FY2022/23		FY2023/24			
	Total patients	Total cycles started	Total patients	Total cycles started	Total patients	Total cycles started		
IVF	63	213	78	200	101	265		
IUI	15	41	11	25	14	39		
Egg freezing	This information is being withheld under Section 12 of the							
Embryo storage	Freedom of Information Act, please see below.							

Refusal Notice for question(s) - The information that you have requested is exempt under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act because it will take more than 18 hours to retrieve and extract the relevant information.

12. - (1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

The information requested is not centrally held by Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals, a manual trawl of patient records would be required. We estimate that compliance with this request for information would exceed the appropriate costs limit. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000, the limit has been specified as £450 and represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

Sanjay Arya Medical Director

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

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

Helpline number: 0303 123 111