



# Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

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Chief Nurse

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Ref: FOI/2025/10882

Date Received: 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025

Response Due: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do not hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

**I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to request information regarding the use and uptake of digital pathology within your trust's pathology services.**

**Specifically, we are seeking information on both slide digitisation and slide reading (including AI-based systems), as well as the extent of digital adoption within your histopathology services.**

## **Slide digitisation**

- 1. Please list the suppliers or companies currently used (*if any, else respond with "Not used"*) to digitise pathology slides within your trust's pathology services (i.e. for converting glass slides into whole-slide images):**
  - a. Supplier name (Philips, Leica, Hamamatsu, Roche Diagnostics, etc.)**
  - b. Model(s) installed**
  - c. Number of scanners deployed**
  - d. Year of deployment**
  - e. Method of acquisition (capital purchase, lease or managed service contract)**
  - f. Was the scanner procured directly from the manufacturer or via a reseller? (if known)**
  - g. If applicable, any external service providers (e.g. outsourced scanning)**

Please redirect your questions to Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust at [FreedomofInformationRequests@nca.nhs.uk](mailto:FreedomofInformationRequests@nca.nhs.uk) as they provide this service for WWL.

### Slide reading

2. Please detail any software or AI tools used (*if any, else respond with "Not used"*) for reading, analysing, or supporting the interpretation of digital pathology slides:
  - a. Software/company name (Sectra, Paige, Ibex, PathAI, Indica Labs, Aiforia, etc.)
  - b. Product name (if known)
  - c. Use case (e.g. viewer only, AI diagnosis support, automated screening, triage)
  - d. Year of deployment
  - e. Was the software procured directly from the supplier or via a reseller? (if known)

***Provide the above for each software or AI tool used (multiple)***

Please redirect your questions to Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust at [FreedomofInformationRequests@nca.nhs.uk](mailto:FreedomofInformationRequests@nca.nhs.uk) as they provide this service for WWL.

### Digital adoption

3. For your trust's pathology services, please provide the following information for each of the past 3 financial years (*FY 2022/23 [1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023], FY 2023/24 [1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024], and FY 2024/25 [1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025]*):
  - a. Total number of histopathology glass slides prepared
  - b. Total number of histopathology slides digitalised using whole-slide scanners (if known)
  - c. Total number of unique histopathology cases reported (*including all reporting modalities*)
  - d. Total number of histopathology cases reported digitally (*using screen-based reading/viewers, not by light microscopy*)

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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,



KEVIN PARKER-EVANS

Kevin Parker-Evans MBA, FCMJ, CMgr. RN Dip HE

Chief Nursing Officer & Director of Infection Prevention and Control

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