

Information Governance Department
Wrightington Hospital
Hall Lane
Appley Bridge
Wigan
WN6 9EP

Tel: 01257 256284
Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk
Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI2020/7168

Date Received: 9th November 2020

Response Due: 7th December 2020

Date: 2nd December 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

You asked:

Under the Freedom of Information Act could I please request the following information:

- 1. Please may you provide the number of consented adult autopsies performed within your Trust in the year 2019?**

We did not carry out any consented adult post-mortems in 2019

Some comments to help clarify the request are included (below).

For the purposes of this request:

An autopsy is an invasive examination of a deceased body, where organs are removed and inspected, typically by a pathologist. This does not include single-organ retrieval, for example, brain donation. It also does not include anatomical dissection/prosection performed only for the purposes of teaching healthcare students.

A consented autopsy (also known as a hospital autopsy) is an autopsy where the legal basis relied upon is consent, rather than the instruction of a coroner.

2019 refers to the date of the evisceration stage of the autopsy, rather than the date of death or the completion of the autopsy report.

'Adult' means where the deceased was 18 years or over at the time of death.

Where your trust has changed its name within the year 2019, please include consented adult autopsies that took place within the trust under its previous name.

Where a case has been referred into to your trust for a consented autopsy by a different trust, please do include it.

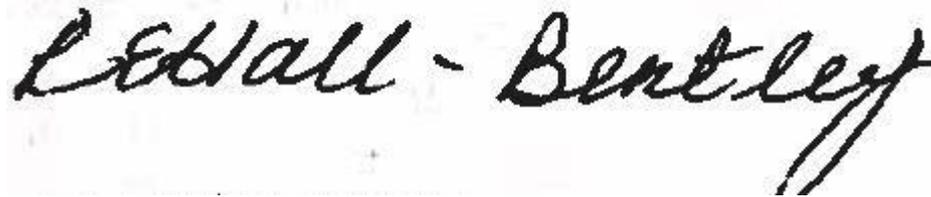
Where your trust has referred a case out to a different trust for a consented autopsy, please do not include it.

Where more than one trust has merged to form a single trust (e.g. where one trust has acquired another), please include all consented adult autopsies that took place within 2019 for all the trusts involved.

Should a different trust have split and become part acquired by your trust and part acquired a different trust, please let me know so data is not duplicated.

I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. If we do not hear from you within 28 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L Hall - Bentley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Lynne Hall-Bentley
Director of Operations – Medicine Division

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, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

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 1113