

Our Ref: 3/2023
JANUARY 2022

Re: Your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

As a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I'd be grateful if you could provide the following information about the provision of bowel care for adults.

Q1. Does the Trust have a formal written policy for digital rectal examination, digital rectal stimulation and the digital removal of faeces in spinal cord injured and other patients with neurogenic bowel dysfunction?

(a) Yes

(b) No

Q2. Is your policy based on the policy template that the Spinal Injuries Association circulated to your Trust in August 2018?

(a) Yes

(b) No

(c) No bowel assessment and management policy in place

Q3. If admitted to the Trust, will a person with neurogenic bowel dysfunction receive the following bowel care intervention – Digital removal of faeces?

(a) Yes

(b) No

Plans are patient specific and made by the treating clinician

Q4. If admitted to the Trust, will a person with neurogenic bowel dysfunction receive the following bowel care intervention – Digital rectal stimulation?

(a) Yes

(b) No

Plans are patient specific and made by the treating clinician

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Q5. If admitted to the Trust, will a person with neurogenic bowel dysfunction receive the following bowel care intervention – Trans anal irrigation?

(a) Yes

(b) No

Plans are patient specific and made by the treating clinician

Q6. Do you have ward-based staff skilled in supporting patients with neurogenic bowel care interventions, including the digital removal of faeces?

(a) Yes

(b) No

Q7. Are staff available seven days a week to undertake these bowel care interventions?

(a) Yes

(b) No

Q8. Does the Trust have a policy that allows for the personal care assistants/carers of spinal cord injured patients to assist with the bowel care element of the patient's care?

(a) Yes

(b) No

Q9. Does the Trust have an appropriate clinical leader in place (such as a Continence Manager) to manage the overall delivery of bowel care interventions to patients?

(a) Yes

(b) No

Q10. What are the contact details for this clinical leader (i.e. name, job title, telephone number and email address)?