

Our Ref: 140/2024
February 2024

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

Dear Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust,

Could you provide the information to show a list of which hospitals within your trust have the relevant equipment to treat patients who refuse blood and blood components (such as Jehovah's Witnesses) in an emergency situation?

To give you an example, should a Jehovah's Witness be involved in an accident and they were bleeding out, which hospital(s) in your trust would have the facilities available to treat them in accordance with their beliefs regarding no blood transfusions? This would be hospitals with a cell salvage machine at the very least on site, for example.

The Trust has a Major Haemorrhage protocol which specifically articulates actions that should be taken to support resuscitation and initial stabilisation, including the use of alternatives to blood products in line with patient wishes.

The Trust does have a number of cell savers available if required. These are more commonly used in elective rather than emergency situations .