

Our Ref: 223
February 2024

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

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.

In short 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 .

I would be grateful for some clarification, as the answers to my questions have been only partially provided.

Could you make clear WHICH hospitals within your trust are able to deal with situations involving emergency cases where the patient refuses blood and blood fractions. If all of them have the protocols in place to handle such patients, then please confirm.

We have 2 cell salvage machines at DRI. We currently do not have one at the Bassetlaw site though this is a priority for the CSD in the financial year 2024-25.

Any policy /protocol would usually apply across both sites.