

Our Ref: 422
June 2024

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

We have already approached your ICB and specifically asked for clarity as to which trusts performed antenatal screening. Your ICB didn't clarify and therefore we have directed this request to all trusts in your ICS. Apologies if you do not perform screening.

We are aware of the NHS England FASP 20 week scan guidance document. "*There is no requirement to archive images of the fetal cardiac protocol views*". However, we are aware there is disparity amongst NHS hospital trusts nationally when congenital heart defects are not identified at this scan. We understand some hospital trusts don't retain fetal cardiac images, some do, and some retain video clips, and some retain both. There doesn't seem to be any consistency.

We have been advised by NHS England and all the ICB's that they do not hold the following information as it is "granular". We have been advised to approach each of the acute trusts. Our questions are;

1. When congenital heart defects ARE NOT identified during screening at the 20 week fetal anomaly scan;

a) Does your trust currently retain the fetal cardiac views?

No

b) Were fetal cardiac views retained in 2021 and 2022?

No

c) If views are currently retained, are these still images or video clips?

d) For how long has your trust had this fetal cardiac view retention policy?

Since 2019