

Freedom of Information Act Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

Survey of perineal tears and obstetric practice in the UK

We would appreciate if you would kindly complete this short but important survey. This information would help us to establish accurate prevalence data and establish the current national practice regarding follow-up of third- and fourth-degree tears between 31st December 2023- 1st January 2025 and correlate data with the maternity dashboard.

With regard to the further breakdown of the data into Primiparous, Multiparous, and Don't Know categories for each individual tear type, this information is not readily extractable from our systems.

To provide these details would require a manual review of over each midwifery case record. Under **Section 12(1)** of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Trust is not obliged to comply with a request if the estimated cost of doing so would exceed the appropriate limit (£450, based on 18 hours of work at £25 per hour). Therefore, we are applying a Section 12 exemption to this portion of your request.

Name of Hospital / Unit	Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital,			
Address	Armthorpe Road, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN2 5LT			
	Total	Primiparous	Multiparous	Don't Know
All Births	4332	2156	2176	
Vaginal deliveries	1839 (41.9%)			
Forceps deliveries	167(3.8%)			
Ventouse deliveries	212 (4.9%)			
Failed ventouse →				

Forceps deliveries	12			
Caesarean Section	2178			
Elective caesarean section	701 (16.0%)			
Emergency caesarean Section	1477 (33.7)			
Second degree tears				
Sutured second degree tears	650			
Episiotomies	451			
Third degree tears	NVD 41(2.2%) Assisted 24(6.3%)			
3a	NVD 17 Assisted 8			
3b	NVD 17 Assisted 13			
3c	NVD 7 Assisted 2			
Fourth degree tears	Assisted Delivery 1			
Rectal buttonhole tear	0			

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days from the date of this response, and should be addressed to d.wraith@nhs.net.

If you remain dissatisfied after the internal review, you have the right to appeal to the

Our Ref: 324
May 2025

Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>