



**The Clatterbridge
Cancer Centre**
NHS Foundation Trust

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Date: 13 July 2022

Re: Freedom of Information Request
Ref: 231-2022

Thank you for your email dated the 05/07/2022, requesting information in relation to MRI safety and helium supply.

The information you require is as follows:

Please tell me in the financial years a) 2020/21 and b) 2021/22

- 1) How many incidents were reported by your Trust on the Datix incident reporting system under the category 'MRI safety'? **81 incidents**
- 2) How many of these MRI safety Datix incident reports were listed under the division, 'MRI Non Declared Internal Passive Metallic Implant'?
- 3) How many of these MRI safety Datix incident reports were under the division 'MRI Non Declared Internal Active Metallic Implant'?

Two incidents involved a potential metallic implant or object. One incident required the scan to be ceased and not continued, the other was deemed to be safe to continue.

Incident 1: Patient attended for scan with known history of confusion. An MRI safety form had already been filled in and returned by the Nursing Team with the co-operation of the patient and his family.

Upon arriving for the scan alone, a second safety form was filled in with the patient for the purpose of validating the information already provided. As all of the information provided on the safety forms were the same and no contraindications to MRI were identified it was deemed safe to take the patient in to the scan room.

Upon the initial localiser images a signal void was identified as a possible metal foreign body. The patient was removed from the scanner very slowly and with reassurance. A radiologist was asked to provide an opinion and it was agreed the scan should not continue.

Once the patient was out of the scan room safely, they were checked to see if they felt ok before being allowed to go home.

Incident 2: A patient attended for a whole spine MRI scan. Both ID and pre scan second checks did not raise any safety concerns, and patient denied any internal metal.

On scanning an artefact was noted in the chest area. The patient was asked again over the intercom, the answer remained no. CT images were checked on PACS and we identified 2 ?markers in the oesophagus.

We went into the room and asked the patient again, if they could recall any implants, procedures, the answer was no. We asked about scopes and then they remembered a scope about 8 weeks ago that had put something in, but they had forgot about it, because at the time they asked if it would affect anything and they said no.

For all of the incidents captured under 2 and 3 above in 2020/21 and 2021/22, can you please provide a verbatim copy of the description of the adverse event?

4a) Finally, can you please tell me if MRI scanner(s) at your Trust have at any point needed to be temporarily left out of service due to supply chain issues impacting access to helium in 2021/22? If the answer to this question is YES, please also tell me **No**

4b) How many machines were affected by the helium shortage? **n/a**

4c) In which hospitals/buildings do those machine(s) operate? **n/a**

4d) How long were the machine(s) out of action as a result of the helium shortage? **n/a**

4e) How many patients were affected by the MRI scanner outage? **n/a**

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address provided below.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for this to be investigated internally.

If you are dissatisfied with the information you have received, you have the right to ask for an internal review.

Both processes will be handled in accordance with our Trust's Freedom of Information Policy and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Internal investigation and internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Freedom of Information Review, The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust, Clatterbridge Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 4JY

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal investigation/review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

In order for us to ensure customer satisfaction and to monitor compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would be grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete a short feedback form via the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H39RFMM>

Kind Regards,

The Information Governance Team
Contact Email: ccf-tr.foi@nhs.net