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**30<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

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[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference:** Stroke Services

I am writing in response to your request for information under the FOI 2000.

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold some of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

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FOI Request / Question	Question Response	Is there an exemption?	Exemption	Exemption Details
1. Please state the type of stroke centre your trust is eg. Neuroscience centre/Comprehensive stroke centre, Acute stroke centre, Non stroke centre, etc.	Acute Stroke Centre			
2. What is your normal imaging pathway for a patient with suspected stroke?	Suspected stroke patients within timeframe for emergency stroke treatment (such as thrombolysis or mechanical thrombectomy) are scanned in the next available slot (ideally within 20 minutes), all other suspected strokes are to be scanned within 1 hour			
3. Which of the following imaging modalities do you use as standard? Non contrast CT head, CT angiogram, CT perfusion, MR angiogram, MR DWI.	We use Non contrast CT head, CT angiogram, MR angiogram, MR DWI			
4. Do you use any AI tools? If so, please state the company and algorithm used, and the date that the algorithm was first used in your trust. Please list the clinical situations where each algorithm is used.	We use VizAI and have 2 algorithms, one to identify large vessel occlusions and one for intracerebral bleeds. This went live 10th October 2023			
5. Do you provide mechanical thrombectomy for stroke in your trust? If yes, please provide the following information: • What days/hours is this service provided • If not 24/7, do you refer patients externally and please provide details of this.	Information not held. Under Section 16 of the Act we have a duty to provide advice and assistance. Please contact Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust <a href="mailto:FOI@nuh.nhs.uk">FOI@nuh.nhs.uk</a> who may hold this information.			
6. How many stroke thrombectomy procedures did you perform in 2022, 2023 & 2024? How many were performed in	Not provided at SFH – please see Q5			

weekday working hours (8am-6pm), weekend day (8am-6pm) and overnight (6pm-8am)? How many were performed under general anaesthesia?				
7. For each of the following types of stroke, please list whether you offer thrombectomy, and what the time window eligibility criteria is - for example "anterior circulation large vessel - yes up to 24 hours"	Large vessel occlusion including carotid, Terminal ICA, M1, proximal M2 or basilar artery who present within 24 hours of symptom onset			
8. Are there plans to increase service operating hours? Please provide details of any planned increases to the service	Not provided at SFH – please see Q5			
9. Are you planning to increase the number of consultants to the stroke thrombectomy rota in the next 2-3 years? Which discipline are these consultants expected to be from? (eg. vascular interventional radiology, neurosurgery etc)	Not provided at SFH – please see Q5			
10. Do you refer your stroke patients to other centres for thrombectomy? If so, please provide details, referral pathways and day/times	Refer patients to Nottingham University Hospitals. Patients identified on the VizAI app as a large vessel occlusion send an alert to the thrombectomy team on the app and the referral and acceptance is communicated through this. If the App does not identify an LVO but the stroke consultants feels there is, again a message is sent through the app on the specific patient, the thrombectomy team review and confirm if accepted or declined. The service provided by NUH is currently Monday-Friday 08:00-18:00 and Weekends 08:00-12:00.			

	Patients can be referred up to the final time and don't need to be on QMC campus by those times.			
11. How many full-time-equivalent consultants are on your stroke thrombectomy on-call rota? How many of these are interventional neuroradiologists? Please provide the specialty of each consultant on the rota e.g. interventional neuroradiologist etc	Not provided at SFH – please see Q5			
12. How many radiographers are on the thrombectomy on-call rota? Do the on-call radiographers have other on-call duties e.g. diagnostic radiology, vascular intervention, non-vascular intervention etc. during their shift on the on-call thrombectomy rota?	Not provided at SFH – please see Q5			
13. How many nurses are on the thrombectomy on-call rota? Do the on-call nurses have other on-call duties e.g. diagnostic radiology, vascular intervention, non-vascular intervention etc	Not provided at SFH – please see Q5			
14. What anaesthetic support is available for thrombectomies? Please split this for in hours & out of hours cases. For example: Dedicated anaesthetist available/Shared anaesthetic support with neurosurgery/Shared anaesthetic support with general on-call	Not provided at SFH – please see Q5			
15. How many biplane fluoroscopy rooms are there in your trust?	Not provided at SFH – please see Q5			
16. For stroke admissions, which specialty are they admitted under? Are patients admitted under radiology/interventional radiology for any part of their admission?	They are admitted under Stroke Medicine at SFH			

I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, you have the right to ask for an internal review. 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: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email [sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net](mailto:sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net).

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk).

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email [sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net](mailto:sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net).

Yours faithfully

### Information Governance Team

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.

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