

Date: **22 May 2020**

Our reference: **FOIRQ5757**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your request for information processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please see our response to your following request for information:

Your Request and our Response (in bold)

With regards to the Staff member that has been diagnosed with corona virus can you please clarify if Him or Her had contact with any Patients?

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust has already published the information on 14 March 2020 and is therefore reasonably accessible to the public by other means than under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You can access information requested via the GOSH website link below:

<https://www.gosh.nhs.uk/news/statement-regarding-coronavirus-update-patients>

Section 21 of the FOIA states “*information that is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.*” This is an absolute exemption therefore a public authority, (the ‘Trust’), is not required to carry out a public interest test to consider whether the information is exempt. Your request is therefore exempt under Section 21(1) of the FOIA.

And have these children now been screened for corona virus and placed in isolation in a side room pending their test results?

it is our Infection Prevention Control(IPC) policy to place any child with respiratory symptoms in droplet precautions and send a sample to be tested

Our Request for Clarification

You were contacted for clarification relating to the following requested information:

2. Have Parents and relatives of any children being nursed in isolation are they now being prevented from seeing the child patients?

We asked you to explain more precisely exactly what information you were requesting as your question was unclear.

Your Response to Our Request for Clarification

You responded with clarification to confirm that your question means are parents allowed to see their children who are being nursed in isolation with corona virus.

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust has already published the information on 23 March 2020 and is therefore reasonably accessible to the public by other means than under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You can access information requested via the GOSH website link below:

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3. Can you please clarify if any other staff members that had any contact with the staff member diagnosed with corona virus have now been screened for the disease and have been placed in self isolation pending test results?

We have followed up staff who were in contact with the index case.

Symptomatic staff have been excluded from work and tested where appropriate.

4. Does the Trust have a new infection control policy for corona virus other than the normal infection control policy? If so could you please forward me a copy of this policy.

No this is covered in our standard and isolation policy and our infection control assurance framework

5. Does the Trust have a new mandatory training module for corona virus other than the normal infection control mandatory training?

No we have not updated the mandatory training module as the content is decided nationally. We have disseminated teaching locally as appropriate through our Practice Education team.

6. Are Bank nurses on a bank contract only expected to care for corona disease patients?

No. Bank staff are allocated to areas of clinical need and appropriate to their skill set

7. How much money has the Trust spent on PPEs and equipment and bio hazard suits for use when caring for corona virus patients and the assessment of perceived corona virus patients? please give financial statistics for the past 4 calendar weeks.

We do not record the number of masks, gloves, gowns and other PPE that have been used on Corona virus patients, therefore we cannot calculate the costs of PPE used on these patients and assessment of patients. We have not used any biohazard suits.

8. Does the Trust have an isolation pod to assess perceived corona virus patients as in child patients?

We do not have isolation pods but have isolation facilities available throughout the hospital and appropriate side rooms identified in every inpatient area.

9. Does the Trust have a specialist paediatric infectious diseases unit within the hospital?

Yes.

10. Is there always medical staff at hand dressed in bio hazard suits for the immediate assessment of children perceived to be suffering from corona virus?

We do not use biohazard suits but we have appropriate PPE should a child require assessment or treatment if they are suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19

Please note

The information we have provided under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is the information held on the date your request was received by the Trust.

We hope the information provided is sufficient and helpful in answering your questions, issues or concerns. Should you have any further queries in relation to this request, please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Team and quote the above reference number on any related correspondence.

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Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information team

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust

Email: foiteam@gosh.nhs.uk

[Enclosed – Your rights – see next page]

Your Rights

Should you have any questions relating to the response you have received to your request for information, please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Team. Alternatively, you are entitled to make a request for an internal review within two months from the date of receiving our final response to your original request. You can also write to the Head of Quality & Safety at the following address:

Quality & Safety team
Great Ormond Street Hospital
LONDON
WC1N 3JH

If, however, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review then you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner as the final stage of the FOI process. You can contact the Information Commissioner's Office at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113
Fax: 01625 524510