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Request for Information Reference: 08.22.42

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Email only

18th August 2022

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 17th August 2022 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to human milk and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

I am writing to you to ascertain how your Trust acquires and distributes human milk products (also known as “breast milk” or “chest milk” based products, depending on Trust policy). I would like to know:

- 1. Does your Trust acquire human milk or human milk-based products for infant or paediatric feeding? If so, how?**
For example, your answer may be that your Trust does provide human milk and acquires it from: a human milk bank within your Trust; a human milk bank run outside your Trust; or a private supplier/s.

The only human milk given to infants or children is their mother’s own milk if the baby is unable to breastfeed.

- 2. Does your Trust have policy on providing human milk to adult patients for their consumption? If so, please can you attach it.**
For clarification, we are asking about those adults wishing to have human milk for personal use rather than an adult asking for infant or paediatric feeding. These patients may be seen in departments such as clinical immunology, oncology, or other such departments, not just in nutrition services.

No.

3. If your Trust acquires human milk-based products from private suppliers (e.g., companies), can you provide the annual amount spent on these products by your Trust for the past 5 years, if available?

Not applicable, the Trust does not purchase human milk based products.

- a. If your Trust does not currently use private suppliers, please can you detail if your trust has been approached by any companies to purchase such products for infant, paediatric or adult consumption?

For example, these companies may include NeoKare, NeoLacta, or Prolacta or like that provide human milk-based products. Some of the products they provide to help you include Humavant, PHBM, MMF or the like.

The Trust has not been approached by any companies regarding human milk based products.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator