



Katharine Tylko-Hill

Date: 09/10/2019

Via email: request-608186-
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Dear Ms Tylko-Hill,

RE: Freedom of Information Request 201920/ 258 - Outpatient hysteroscopy/biopsy

Your Query and NHSO Response	Date of Request	September 2019
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<p>Under the Freedom of Information Act please may I have answers to the following questions.</p> <p>1. a) Have your hysteroscopists read the following statement issued by the RCOG in December 2018 - Y/N? Yes.</p> <p>b) Have your hysteroscopy managers read the following statement – Y/N? Not applicable, NHS Orkney does not employ a hysteroscopy manager.</p> <p>https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/guidelines-re...</p> <p>The British Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy published this statement in December 2018: "Diagnostic hysteroscopy is a commonly performed investigation; it is safe and of short duration. Most women are able to have the procedure in an outpatient setting, with or without local anaesthesia, and find it convenient and acceptable. However, it is important that women are offered, from the outset, the choice of having the procedure performed as a day case procedure under general or regional anaesthetic. Some centres are also able to offer a conscious sedation service in a safe and monitored environment. It is important that the procedure is stopped if a woman finds the outpatient experience too painful for it to be continued. This may be at the request of the patient or nursing staff in attendance, or at the discretion of the clinician performing the investigation."</p>		
<p>2. Are ALL your hysteroscopy patients from the outset routinely offered the choice of having hysteroscopy as a day case procedure a) under GA – Y/N? Yes b) with epidural - Y/N? No c) with IV sedation - Y/N? If considered appropriate by anaesthetist after discussion with patient.</p>		
<p>3. Please may I have a link to all the audits of outpatient hysteroscopy that your hospital Trust has undertaken within the last 10 years. NHS Orkney does not offer outpatient hysteroscopy.</p>		
<p>4. Do all your hysteroscopy clinics routinely record ALL patients' VAS pain-scores a) as hysteroscope passes through the cervix – Y/N, b) at biopsy – Y/N? Not applicable.</p>		
<p>5. Does your hysteroscopy department send all its patients the RCOG's Patient Information Leaflet, published on its website - Y/N? https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/patients/patient-leaflets/outpatient-hysteroscopy/ NHS Orkney do not have a hysteroscopy department but the RCOG leaflet is commonly used to explain the in-patient procedure.</p>		
<p>6. Does your hysteroscopy department intend to start using the RCOG leaflet – Y/N? If so, in which month/year? As above.</p>		
<p>7. If your hysteroscopy department uses its own Patient Information Leaflet, please may I have a link to it? Not applicable.</p>		
<p>8. Does the leaflet include ALL the key points listed (below) by the RCOG – Y/N? Key points Not applicable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outpatient hysteroscopy (OPH) is a procedure carried out in the outpatient clinic that involves examination of the inside of your uterus (womb) with a thin telescope. 		



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- There are many reasons why you may be referred for OPH, such as to investigate and/or treat abnormal bleeding, to remove a polyp seen on a scan or to remove a coil with missing threads.
- The actual procedure usually takes 10–15 minutes. It can take longer if you are having any additional procedures.
- You may feel pain or discomfort during OPH. It is recommended that you take pain relief 1–2 hours before the appointment.
- If it is too painful, it is important to let your healthcare professional know, as the procedure can be stopped at any time.
- You may choose to have the hysteroscopy under general anaesthetic. This will be done in an operating theatre, usually as a daycase procedure.
- Possible risks with hysteroscopy include pain, feeling faint or sick, bleeding, infection and rarely uterine perforation (damage to the wall of the uterus). The risk of uterine perforation is lower during OPH than during hysteroscopy under general anaesthesia

I hope this helps with your request.

NHS Orkney is a small remote and rural health board within Scotland. All responses to Freedom of Information requests are collated in accordance with the terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Orkney has dealt with your request, you have a right to ask for a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request.

A request for review should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter and NHS Orkney will reply within 20 working days of receipt. Review requests should be sent in writing to Dr Louise Wilson, Director of Public Health, NHS Orkney, Garden House, New Scapa Road, Kirkwall, Orkney KW15 1BQ or by e-mail via ork-hb.foirequests@nhs.net.

Requests for appeal should be made in writing to: Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS. Telephone: 01334 464610, Fax: 01334 464611, e.mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or on the online appeal portal www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal.

FOI responses (subject to the removal of personal information) are published on NHS Orkney's website at: <http://www.ohb.scot.nhs.uk/foi-response-disclosure-log>.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Officer
NHS Orkney



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