

Information Governance Department
First Floor, South Wing
St Thomas' Hospital
Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
Westminster Bridge Road
London SE1 7EH

Telephone: 020 7188 7525
Email: foi@gstt.nhs.uk

16th August 2016

By email: request-339436-307464b8@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Abrams,

Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST: 55847

Please find below the response to your Freedom of Information request to Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust.

You may re-use this information (except for logos) under the terms of the Open Government Licence ^[1]. If you would prefer to receive the information in an alternative electronic format, please let us know.

1. *Do you conduct multi-parametric MRI (mpMRI) scans (using T2-weighted, diffusion-weighted and dynamically enhanced sequences) before prostate biopsies?*

Patients with a query of prostate cancer have an MRI scan before a biopsy. The protocol for pre-biopsy prostate MRI does not include contrast enhanced dynamic scans.

If no, it would be helpful to know what the main reasons are:

Not applicable

If yes, it would be helpful if you can you provide an estimate of the percentage of men who receive an mpMRI scan before prostate biopsy:

95% of male patients would receive an MRI with the aim of identifying whether the patient needs a biopsy and what area to target. Some patients may be unable to have MRI due to having a pacemaker.

2. *How many scanners do you have available to use for mpMRI scans before prostate biopsy?*

The Trust has four scanners available for this use.

3. For each individual scanner used for mpMRI scans before prostate biopsy, please provide the following:

Make	Siemens	Siemens	Siemens	Siemens
Model	Skyra	Skyra	Aera	Aera
Magnetic Field Strength	3T	3T	1.5T	1.5T
Age	2 months	2 months	3 years	5 years
Due to be replaced	N/A	N/A	5 years	3 years

4. How many mpMRI scans before prostate biopsy do you estimate you carry out per year?

- 0
- Up to 50
- 50 -100
- 100 – 250
- 250 – 500
- 500 – 750
- 750 – 1000
- More than 1000

The Trust carries out between 500 – 750 scans per year. We estimate to be close to the top of the 500-750 band.

5. (i) Do you intend to increase the number of mpMRI scans before prostate biopsy following the first results from the large clinical trial PROMIS?

The Trust does not intend to increase the number of scans. The policy states that all patients identified by the Urologist who will benefit from a prebiopsy MRI are scanned prior to biopsy. We offer a number of 'on the day' scans for the patients who have attended the Urology department.

5. (ii) If yes, do you currently have sufficient resources and capacity to cope with this increase?

Not applicable

Please let us know if you require more details or further clarification. You can find out more about the Trust and our publication scheme at our website ^[2].

If you are dissatisfied with our response, please use our FOI review process by contacting foi@gstt.nhs.uk or writing to:

Access to Information Manager (FOI Review)
Information Governance
1F South Wing
St Thomas' Hospital
Westminster Bridge Road
London SE1 7EH

Please be aware that reviews will not be conducted via public forum, and we will require your name and contact address in order to respond.

If you remain dissatisfied after a review, you have the right under s50 of the Act to apply to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Further details about this and the Act can be found on their website ^[3].

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Steddon', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Simon Steddon.
Acting Chief Operating Officer

[1] Either version 3 or, at your discretion, any later version – <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/>

[2] <http://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/about-us/publications/foi/freedom-of-information.aspx>

[3] <http://www.ico.org.uk>

