

Information Governance
Department
14 Lister Street
University Hospital Crosshouse
Crosshouse
Kilmarnock KA2 0BB



Katharine Tylko-Hill

Date 28 October 2019

Your Ref

Our Ref 496/2019

Enquiries to Freedom of Information
Extension 26112

Direct line 01563 826112

E-mail foi@aaaht.scot.nhs.uk

Dear Ms Tylko-Hill,

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002**

Thank-you for your request for the provision of the following information. Please see the partial response below.

1. a) Have your hysteroscopists read the following statement issued by the RCOG in December 2018

Yes

b) Have your hysteroscopy managers read the following statement

Yes

<https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/guidelines-re...>

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."

2. Are ALL your hysteroscopy patients from the outset routinely offered the choice of having hysteroscopy as a day case procedure

a) under GA – Yes

b) with epidural - Yes

c) with IV sedation - Yes

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.

To be provided

4. Do all your hysteroscopy clinics routinely record ALL patients' VAS pain-scores

- a) as hysteroscope passes through the cervix – No,
- b) at biopsy - No

5. Does your hysteroscopy department send all its patients the RCOG's Patient Information Leaflet, published on its website

<https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/patients/patient-leaflets/outpatient-hysteroscopy/>

No – they are given NHS Ayrshire & Arran Information Leaflet.

6. Does your hysteroscopy department intend to start using the RCOG leaflet. If so, in which month/year?

No

7. If your hysteroscopy department uses its own Patient Information Leaflet, please may I have a link to it?

Please see attached: Endometrial assessment clinic.pdf.

Please note - this leaflet is in the process of being reviewed.

8. Does the leaflet include ALL the key points listed (below) by the RCOG

Yes

Key points

- 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.
- 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 trust this response is helpful. However, under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 if you are dissatisfied with our response you are entitled to request a review. A request for a review must be made in writing to Mrs Jillian Neilson, Head of Information Governance, NHS Ayrshire & Arran, 14 Lister Street, University Hospital Crosshouse, Kilmarnock, KA2 0BB or email InformationGovernance@aapct.scot.nhs.uk, no later than 40 working days from

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29 October 2019. You must provide your full name, an address for correspondence, details of your original request and say why you would like a review.

If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further advice or assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Tara Palmer
Freedom of Information Officer
Information Governance
NHS Ayrshire & Arran
14 Lister Street, University Hospital Crosshouse
Kilmarnock KA2 0BE