



FOI 2183

Date 15/09/2023

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request. Please note, this is a cross-site response for Bedford site and Luton site.

You asked:

1. **Does your Trust have a process for skin preparation/cleaning prior to blood collection?**
Yes
2. **Do you take two sets of blood cultures each time as recommended in the guidance?**
No
3. **If no, what percentage of patients do have two sets of blood cultures taken?**
Recent audit indicated 2 sets taken for 3% of patients
4. **Do you measure the volume of blood taken each time a blood culture is taken (the recommended amount is 20ml per sample)?**
Yes
5. **Do you measure the time between blood sample collection and the sample being loaded onto an analyser instrument (the recommended maximum time is four hours)?**
Yes
6. **If yes, what is the average time?**
5 hours and 11 mins
7. **Do you collect data on blood sample contamination?**
Yes
8. **Is the data described above reported at Board level as recommended?**
Yes

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Please note that the Trust has a formal internal review and complaints process which is managed by the Information Governance Manager/Data Protection Officer. Should you have any concerns with our response, you can make a formal request for an internal review. Requests for internal review should be submitted within three months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter, and should be addressed to: dataprotectionofficer@ldh.nhs.uk. This option is available to you for up to three calendar months from the date your response was issued.

If you are not satisfied with the Trust review under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Officer (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. The ICO can be contacted at: ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

FOI Officer

Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust