

17th December 2024

Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information which we received on Wednesday 28th Novemberth 2024. I am pleased to confirm the following.

Number of blood cultures taken from patients in intensive care units in your Trust that grew coagulase-negative staphylococci (including coagulase-negative staphylococci that were identified to species level) from January 2023 to December 2024.

35 CNS isolated from blood cultures from samples sent by intensive care units

Please confirm whether in your Trust antimicrobial susceptibility testing data is routinely available for all coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates or only for those deemed to be a cause of infection.

Susceptibility testing will only be performed on isolates that are deemed significant following direction from Microbiology Consultants.

If antimicrobial susceptibility testing data is available for all coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates, please indicate how far back in time and for what time period is the antimicrobial susceptibility testing data available.

Not available on all.

Please confirm the antimicrobial susceptibility testing method used in your Trust, e.g. disc diffusion, Vitek 2, and whether EUCAST or CLSI interpretative criteria are used.

VITEK 2 & Disc diffusion following EUCAST guidelines.

Please confirm whether coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates in your Trust are routinely retained in the laboratory, e.g. on beads or on slopes.

Yes, only if susceptibility testing has been performed on them.

If yes to Question 5, indicate how far back in time and for what time period coagulase-negative staphylococcal blood culture isolates are available. Please indicate if only select isolates are available, for example, those considered to be a cause of bloodstream infection.

Culture plates are held for 5 days and all positive blood culture isolates that have received antimicrobial susceptibility testing are saved on beads for a year.

Isolates that are considered to be significant after direction from the Microbiology Consultants undergo susceptibility testing and then saving on beads.

Does your Trust use whole-body skin bacterial decontamination for all or selected patients?

Selected patients are offered skin decolonisation.

With respect to whole-body skin decontamination, please confirm to which hospital patient groups this is administered, e.g. all admissions, only high-impact acute specialities, only MRSA-positive patient. Please provide the relevant Trust policy/guideline.

All new MRSA positive patients are offered skin decolonisation treatment. All ICU patients are supported with use of Octenisan wash routinely.

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If you are unhappy with the information received in response to this request, please address your complaint to the Patient Affairs Office at Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Standing Way, Eaglestone, Milton Keynes MK6 5LD. If, after exhausting our internal process, you are still unhappy with the information received, you may write to the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address above.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Administrator
For and on behalf of Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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