



23 December 2024

Our Ref: FOI 427

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to No. of Referrals due to Significant Harm related to
Circumcision of Children**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to above which you requested on 11 December 2024.

A response to the question raised has been provided by the Surgery & Elective, Maternity & Paediatric Services Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

If you are unhappy as to how this request has been handled, you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. You should write to the Information Governance Department, Lough House, Ards Community Hospital (informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net) within two months of the date of this response and your complaint will be considered and a response provided, within 20 working days of receipt.

If, after receiving a response, you remain unhappy, you can refer your complaint to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office –Northern Ireland, 3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place, Belfast, BT7 2JB. It is important to note that if you refer any matter to the Information Commissioner, you will need to show evidence of having gone through the Trust's internal review procedure to try to resolve the matter with the Trust in the first instance.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Manning
Information Governance Officer

- Q1. Please provide data for the number of referrals due to significant harm related to circumcision of children for each of the last ten years. If possible, please disaggregate the data into therapeutic (for a medical reason) and non-therapeutic (for religious/cultural reasons) circumcisions.**
- A1. The Trust is unable to provide the requested information. If a referral is received, regardless of source i.e. GP, Emergency Department, the Trust does not record or grade based on the harm. The patient would be assessed and treated as clinically appropriate.