



**Portsmouth Hospitals
University**
NHS Trust

Freedom of Information Team
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Name:
Email:
Date: 08/08/2023
Ref: 23-24 241

Dear

RE: Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received by the Trust on 13/07/2023. Please see responses to your requests below.

Please could you provide us with the four reports undertaken by the Royal Colleges. If you are unable to provide us with the full reports, we will be happy to be provided with the reports in their redacted format or a summary or findings of the report.

Please see the attachment.

Please accept this letter as completion of your request. Please note that copies of this request will be held on file for three years before being confidentially destroyed.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, please contact our Head of Information Governance on Information.Governance@porthosp.nhs.uk or write to the above address and we will conduct an internal review. Upon review, if you are still dissatisfied, you may appeal our decision by contacting the Information Commissioner's Office; for more information, please visit the [ICO's website](#).

Please be aware, if we do not receive an appeal within 30 days of you receiving this letter, we will assume that you are satisfied with our response. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team

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our patients and communities

Summary of Royal College Reports for Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust 2018-2023.

Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Report 2018

- The Medical Director of Portsmouth NHS Trust invited the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) to review the department of women's health with regard to safety, effectiveness and team working.
- The interviews were conducted over two days in February 2018 on the hospital site (with a few further interviews taking place over the following two weeks). The assessors were supplied with extensive documentation relating to the function and organisation of the unit and included external reports relating to clinical outcomes and safety.
- The overall finding was that the unit has clinical outcomes in line with national averages with no significant safety issues highlighted. Women expressed great satisfaction with the care they receive and appreciate the work that is being done by all the staff with whom they have been in contact.
- The report identified some opportunity for the consultant workforce to enhance their engagement in clinical governance and multidisciplinary team (MDT) working.
- The assessors have made recommendations that they hope will be constructive and help to improve the care provided to women and their babies.

Royal College of Anaesthetists – Anaesthesia Clinical Services Accreditation (ACSA) 2022

- The review team (RT) found the department of anaesthesia to be a well-integrated service, supportive of staff who appeared to be well engaged with the ACSA process.
- The RT highlighted the quality of the pre-assessment clinic which offered a well-managed six day a week patient pathway that included direct same day access to specialist testing. The department has created a pleasant environment with six well sized examination rooms.
- The RT highlighted the accessibility for staff to local guidelines and policies but noted that there needs to be a system established to ensure monitoring of version control to ensure timely review, and where necessary updates produced.
- The rest facilities for staff working at night including three dedicated en-suite

rooms with computers were observed to be of a good standard and the RT noted the positive trainee feedback.

- The RT considered that the Paediatric set up in the main hospital site to be good and highlighted the recovery pathway in this respect. However, the RT noted the inadequacy of the emergency Paediatric system and solo working in the remote dental site (Poswillo). The current emergency call alert system did not alert at the main hospital meaning that, whilst the establishment of the D and E level bleep holders mitigates some risk, the dental suite is not covered by this and given its distance from the main hospital, it would be a challenge for help to arrive promptly. In addition, the guidelines for the management of Anaesthetic emergencies for the dental site were not clear to the RT and they were not assured that all staff had consistent understanding.
- The RT were impressed by the neck of femur and frailty pathways and highlighted that this good practice (particularly in respect of the input from the care of the elderly team) could be shared across other high risk patient cohort pathways, including emergency laparotomy.
- The cohesion in the obstetric unit with excellent follow up processes in place and comprehensive MDT working is noted by the RT. The multidisciplinary approach to handover in particular is highlighted and its systematic integration into the MDT obstetric ward round. This is likely to be improved further by the planned replacement of the paper system for documentation by the 'badgernet' electronic system, which will auto generate follow up.
- The RT noted that monitoring equipment, including CO2 for patient transfer along the perioperative pathway did not appear to be standardized, and it is recommended that this is addressed to enable pods to be able to clip in and out at each stage of the pathway.
- The RT recognize the challenges associated with ensuring staff training is kept up to date but highlight the need to address the difficulties noted regarding life support recertification for recovery staff. The RT noted that this, along with the delays associated with the replacement of Anaesthetic machines and monitoring equipment, should be recorded on the risk register. The RT recommend that timelines are agreed for both these issues.
- **Accreditation decision** - It is with great pleasure that the College's ACSA Committee recognizes the Anaesthetic department at Portsmouth University Hospitals NHS Trust as an ACSA accredited department, having gained reaccreditation in March 2023.

Royal College of Radiologists Review of Clinical Oncology Service 2022

- The reviewers observed that the radiotherapy team are motivated, engaged and forward looking.
- The department have made some good progress towards implementing peer review and with appropriate support and resources this process will continue to

improve and be invaluable to the service provided to patients.

- The current workload and radiographer shortages are not outside the ranges seen across the UK. It is important that the Trust monitor this continually and the impact of taking on additional service from the Isle of Wight.
- The current staffing models for both consultants and radiographers were highlighted as a concern both internally and by the review team. There are plans in place to improve the situation and the review team will want to see how this works out over the next 6-12 months.
- There is fatigue across all disciplines due to a combination of short staffing, Covid and an ever- increasing workload. The Trust needs to acknowledge this and ensure that staff well-being is a top priority.

Royal College of Pathologists Report 2022

- Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust (PHU) is a very busy hospital providing services to Portsmouth and surrounding areas including the Isle of Wight.
- The cellular pathology department provides support services to all the clinical departments within the hospital and to other neighboring hospitals.
- The highly committed and dedicated staff work very well as a team to provide a high-quality service despite a huge demand and capacity mismatch.
- Inadequate staffing at all levels.
- Pathologists consistently demonstrate a high degree of professionalism and professional values and at most times are good role models.
- Adequate clinical governance and risk management processes which involve wide participation, interprofessional working and educational outcomes.
- Attempts to develop effective team working and cohesion within the cellular pathology department have been made. However, efforts are negatively impacted on by a lack of defined and effective leadership.
- Work is needed to improve the sense of mutual professional respect within the service, ensuring that all members of the team experience parity of esteem for their contribution to delivering the service.
- There is excessive workload for the current establishment of Direct Clinical Care (DCC) PAs assigned to the department of cellular pathology, as demonstrated by the use of waiting list initiatives, employment of locum doctors and outsourcing to private companies.