



FOI REF: 21/679

24th January 2022

Tel: 0300 131 4500

Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to ascertain how your Trust acquires and distributes human milk products (also known as “breast milk” or “chest milk” based products, depending on Trust policy). I would like to know:

- 1. Does your Trust acquire human milk or human milk-based products for infant or paediatric feeding? If so, how?**

For example, your answer may be that your Trust does provide human milk and acquires it from: a human milk bank within your Trust; a human milk bank run outside your Trust; or a private supplier/s.

[East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust's Special Care baby Unit \(SCBU\) only order Human Donor Milk from the not for profit Hearts Milk Bank.](#)

[This milk is acquired for babies whose parents also receive care from our maternity unit. SCBU order the milk and this is processed and invoiced through the Integra system.](#)

- 2. Does your Trust have policy on providing human milk to adult patients for their consumption? If so, please can you attach it.**

For clarification, we are asking about those adults wishing to have human milk for personal use rather than an adult asking for infant or paediatric feeding. These patients may be seen in departments such as clinical immunology, oncology, or other such departments, not just in nutrition services.

[We do not have a policy on providing human milk to adult patients.](#)

3. a. **If your Trust acquires human milk-based products from private suppliers (e.g., companies), can you provide the annual amount spent on these products by your Trust for the past 5 years, if available?**

2017/18	£300
2018/19	£150
2019/20	£0
2020/21	£700
2020/21	£0

3. b. **If your Trust does not currently use private suppliers, please can you detail if your trust has been approached by any companies to purchase such products for infant, paediatric or adult consumption?**

For example, these companies may include NeoKare, NeoLacta, or Prolacta or like that provide human milk-based products. Some of the products they provide to help you include Humavant, PHBM, MMF or the like.

Not applicable.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

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