

FOI REF: 24/765

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024

Tel: 0300 131 4500  
Website: [www.esht.nhs.uk](http://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:

**1) How many incidents of a retained foreign object post-procedure were logged by your Trust in the past five years?**

By 'retained foreign object post procedure', I refer to retained guide wires, mouth props, surgical instruments, needles, vaginal swabs, throat packs, etc. Please break down this information by:

**a) The retained item.**

2021/2022 –	Swab retained.
2022/2023 –	Swab retained.
2023/2024 –	1 x throat pack retained.
2024 (between 01/04/2024 and 30/09/2024) –	1 x tampon retained following a vaginal birth.

**b) The financial year, covering April 1st - March 31st (2019/20, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25). For the latter, please provide information from April 1st to September 30th 2024.**

2019/2020	0
2020/2021	0
2021/2022	1
2022/2023	1
2023/2024	1
2024 (between 01/04/2024 and 30/09/2024)	1

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

Cont.../

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department ([esh-tr.foi@nhs.net](mailto:esh-tr.foi@nhs.net)), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Department  
[esh-tr.foi@nhs.net](mailto:esh-tr.foi@nhs.net)