

FOI REF: 25/182

11<sup>th</sup> March 2025

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:

**I would like to request the following information:**

**1) In the last quarter, what percentage of the following flexible endoscopes:**

- |                  |       |
|------------------|-------|
| a) Gastroscopes  | 11.6% |
| b) Colonoscopes  | 13.8% |
| c) Duodenoscopes | 46.7% |

[We cannot provide separate figures for Conquest Hospital but overall, it is 5.7%.](#)

**were returned to the manual cleaning process because they were not used within 3 hours after removal from the endoscope washer disinfectant (EWD) or automatic endoscope reprocessor, as per BSG and ESGE guidelines?**

**2) In the last year, how many flexible endoscopes required emergency out of hours cleaning?**

[18.](#)

**3) Are endoscopes reprocessed within the hospital or outsourced to a separate decontamination facility?**

[Within the hospital.](#)

**a) If reprocessing is outsourced, which facility is used?**

[Not applicable.](#)

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- b) How often and at which times of the day, are endoscopes collected and returned to the unit from the external reprocessing unit?**

Not applicable.

- c) How are endoscopes transported between the hospital and external reprocessing unit?**

Not applicable.

- 4) Are there on call decontamination staff?**

Yes.

- 5) How is the time elapsed between completing pre-cleaning and starting the manual clean/AER quantified and recorded?**

This is not recorded and so we do not hold this information.

- 6) Do you have a delayed reprocessing protocol in place?**

No.

- a) If so, is adherence to this protocol monitored and what system is used to monitor this?**

Not applicable.

- 7) What is the current endoscope transport system used and who is the supplier?**

Cleanascope trays and carts- Cantel Bag & Tag.

- 8) How much is spent per year on endoscope transportation systems?**

Approximately £41,840 p/a.

- 9) What is the current endoscope track and trace system used?**

HESA

- 10) How much is spent per year on endoscope track and trace systems?**

Eastbourne District General Hospital SLA approximately £3,351.03 p/a  
Conquest Hospital SLA approximately £2,360.29 p/a

- 11) Would the endoscopy unit be happy to be contacted regarding trialling new endoscope infection prevention consumable products? If yes, please provide a contact name and details.**

Not currently as we have staff on consignment.

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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, 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)