

FOI REF: 25/461

18th July 2025

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 request the following information from your organisation's 'first presentation/emergency care services (e.g. urgent care/Accident & Emergency/Minor Injuries unit).
- I am wishing to establish how patients with pretibial injuries are managed if they attend emergency care services.
- A pre-tibial injury is a type of wound occurring on the shin or front of the lower leg, specifically the area where the tibia (shinbone) lies. These wounds are frequently caused by trauma, such as a fall or knock, and the thin skin in this region can tear easily, especially in older individuals. They can range in severity from a skin-tear (pretibial laceration) to a degloving injury or haematoma.

Please may you provide me with:

- 1) Name of the organisation and region.

[East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust.](#)

- 2) Which of the following first presentation/emergency care services does your organisation provide?

- a) Type 1 A&E department (Increasingly referred to as an Emergency Department) = A consultant led 24-hour service with full resuscitation facilities and designated accommodation for the reception of accident and emergency patients.

[The Trust provides a Type 1 Emergency Department.](#)

Cont.../

- b) **Type 2 A&E department = A consultant led single service or Emergency Department (e.g. ophthalmology, dental) with designated accommodation for the reception of patients. Type 3 A&E department = These are now referred to as Urgent Treatment Centres (UTCs). These are GP-led, open at least 12 hours a day, every day, offer appointments that can be booked through NHS 111 or through a GP referral, and are equipped to diagnose and deal with many of the most common ailments for which people attend A&E.**

Not applicable.

- c) **Type 4 Other non-UTC that continue to operate as MIUs, UCC, WICs.**

Not applicable.

- d) **Type 5 Ambulatory Emergency Care Service.**

Not applicable.

- 3) **How many patients with pretibial injuries does your first presentation/emergency care service see annually?**

There is an average annually of 1197 Emergency Department attendances for pretibial injuries (based on the last 4 full calendar years – 2021 to 2024).

- 4) **Does your first presentation/emergency care service have a protocol/policy/pathway/clinic for the conservative (non-surgical) management of people with pretibial wounds? If yes – please specify which.**

The Trust does not have a protocol/policy/pathway/clinic for the conservative (non-surgical) management of people with pretibial wounds.

- 5) **At discharge what follow up care is provided for these patients? (e.g. do you refer to: GP; Community Nurse; Community Wound Clinic; bring them back to a trust-led clinic? (Please specify clinic type.)**

There is a combination of GP follow-up with the involvement of the Practice Nurse or District Nurse.

- 6) **Are patients routinely assessed for suitability for compression therapy (e.g. ABPI/TBPI) in this pathway/clinic? (yes/no/don't know/refer on to other speciality for compression.)**

No.

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), 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