

Date: 19 October 2021
Our reference: N/21/3367

Dear Requestor

RE: Freedom of Information Request

With reference to your request for information I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we partially hold the information that you have requested. A response to each part of your request is below.

In the request you asked:

I am preparing research on the process of cardiological diagnostics with the use of ECG in the British healthcare system. As part of my work, I analyze private and public health services, research using ECG to diagnose arrhythmias. In researching the information available on the Internet, I was able to establish many important facts. For example, I have determined that there are currently 1,250 PCNs in England and over 90% of GPs are members of the PCNs. Currently there are 135 CCGs and they are in charge of buying services for their local community from any service provider that meets NHS standards and costs.

Unfortunately, I still do not understand how exactly PCN and its associated entities work. I would like to kindly ask you for help in answering the following questions or pointing to a website on the Internet that may help me answer the following questions:

1. What requirements do GPs / GP practices have to meet in order to be able to order 24 hour ECGs (Holter Monitor Tests)?

NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG do not hold this information. You may wish to contact individual GP Practices to request this information. A list of our member practices and a link to their websites can be found on our website via the following link - <https://nottscg.nhs.uk/about-us/member-practices/>

2. According to my estimates, one PCN carries out about 500 tests per year using 12-Lead ECG.

- Do you have information on how many 12-Lead ECG are performed annually in the UK?

NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG do not hold this information.

- Do you have any information on how many 24 hour ECGs are performed annually in the UK?

NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG do not hold this information.

- How many 24 hour ECGs examinations are carried out in your system?

NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG do not hold this information. You may wish to contact individual GP Practices to request this information. A list of our member practices

and a link to their websites can be found on our website via the following link - <https://nottscq.nhs.uk/about-us/member-practices/>

3. How often is AF (atrial fibrillation) diagnosed among the ECG performed? According to my data, 16.5% of patients diagnosed with the Holter test have AF.

NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG do not hold this information. You may wish to contact individual GP Practices to request this information. A list of our member practices and a link to their websites can be found on our website via the following link - <https://nottscq.nhs.uk/about-us/member-practices/>

4. How many public hospitals are in your system?

There are two Trusts within our system.

- Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust
- Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group have an internal review procedure through which you can raise any concerns you might have. Further details of this procedure can be obtained by contacting Lucy Branson, Associate Director of Governance via lucy.branson@nhs.net or by writing to NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG, Sir John Robinson House, Sir John Robinson Way, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 6DA.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether the organisation has complied with its obligations under the Act, and can require the organisation to remedy any problems. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to: FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
Telephone 0303 123 1113 or report a concern: <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer on behalf of *NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group*.

notts.foi@nhs.net

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the license conditions must be met.

You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing (email will suffice) to the FOI Lead via notts.foi@nhs.net. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.