

Reference Number: FOIAH2324/450
From: Other
Date: 13 November 2023
Subject: The type and number of tourniquets used for venepuncture and cannulation

Q1 The type and number of tourniquets used for venepuncture and cannulation annually in your Hospital Trust, specifically whether you use single use (disposable) or reusable tourniquets and what material they are made out of.

A1 We only use single use tourniquets, we do not use reusable ones in the trust. The following are used:

Type	Number of Packs Ordered 2022/23
Vygon paediatric vene-k single use tourniquets. FWJ053	25
Tourni Kidz – FWJ085	14
Tourni Strip - FWJ060	19

Q2 If you use a mix of both, whether there is there any Trust policy for deciding which tourniquet to use.

A2 Not applicable – as per A1

Q3 When you first introduced single use tourniquets, if you do use them.

A3 Information not held – the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data.

Q4 The cost per single use tourniquet/other type of tourniquet you use (or total annual cost)

A4 Total annual cost for 2022/23 - £17,693.16

Q5 The MRSA infection rates at your Trust, for three years either side of your introduction of single use tourniquets, referring to bloodstream infections (bacteremias) rather than surface carriage.

A5 Information not held – as per A2. However, we report all MRSA bloodstream infections to UKHSA under our mandatory surveillance program so this information is publicly available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/mrsa-bacteraemia-annual-data>.

Q6 Whether you implemented any of the following infection control procedures within the same year as implementing single use tourniquets:

- Stricter hand hygiene policy
- Staff education programme on infection control procedures

- Screening of patients for MRSA on admission to hospital
- Isolation or decolonisation of patients who tested positive for MRSA

A6 Single use tourniquets are not factored in Hand Hygiene, Staff IPC education programme or MRSA surveillance policy.