

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/24/147
Paediatric Stroke Policy Documents

Information Requested:

We also request disclosure of the appropriate policy documents that were in place regarding Paediatric Strokes in May 2021 to include all policies of internal handling and referrals from local hospitals. In particular, we are looking for your policy or policies that deals with the following aspects: -

- Telephone referral from a local hospital to a tertiary centre for assessment by the on-call paediatric neurologist in a suspected paediatric stroke.
- Steps taken following telephone diagnosis of a paediatric stroke to confirm type of stroke and accuracy of telephone diagnosis.
- Following confirmation of the telephone diagnosis, treatment that would be advised to the local hospital including thrombolysis.

Response Details:

In managing possible paediatric stroke, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) follows the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) guidelines. As this information is reasonably accessible to the applicant, the UHB is refusing your request under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The UHB has applied this exemption to your request as the information sought is available in the public domain. However, in accordance with our duty to advise and assist under section 16 of the Act, the UHB can provide the following weblink which might be of use: [Stroke in Childhood – RCPCH Clinical Guideline](#).

The UHB can also confirm that there is always a paediatric neurologist available to discuss this group of children.

Furthermore, if imaging has been obtained, the UHB would discuss the imaging with Neuroradiology and with Bristol Paediatric Neurology, whom the UHB regards as its referral centre. If there were any issues around thrombolysis, then the UHB would discuss this with Bristol Paediatric Neurology as a matter of course.

The UHB would manage any child depending on the presentation and relevant investigations. We have advised local thrombolysis when there were time and spatial constraints in the child's being transferred to University Hospital of Wales.