

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/24/178**

**Trans Policies**

**Information Requested:**

This FOI is about trans and non binary maternity/ chest feeding policy/ practice, and safeguarding for babies of transpeople. This may also be linked to the NHS Rainbow Badge Scheme or other LGBT group schemes.

Please advise

1. how many men who say they are trans or non binary (the Trust may use the term 'trans women') have been enabled to chestfeed babies since Oct 2019
2. how many babies have been affected
3. which drugs your staff have prescribed to enable this (this may include Domperidone, Haloperidol, Risperidone, Chlorpromazine, Fluphenazine, Metoclopramide or others)
4. Please advise how many different doctors at the Trust have authorised this since Oct 2019, or if unknown the job title of the members of staff permitted to authorise the practice
5. how many women who say they are trans or non binary (the Trust may use the term 'transmen') have given birth at the Trust since Oct 2019
6. please advise how many of these were known to be taking testosterone during pregnancy (if unknown, please advise if staff are required to ask.)
7. provide any guidance given by the Trust to these mothers on the use of testosterone since Oct 2019
8. whether the Trust has any long term monitoring requirements for medical staff for the children who may ingest any of these drugs through a parent's body and to what age (we understand the impact may not be seen until a baby reaches puberty)
9. any board meeting agenda/ minutes about this issue over the past 3 months (or agenda proposed at the next meeting)
10. We have been advised that enabling men to chestfeed baby children of transitioners is not supported by research data or clinical evidence. Please therefore provide details of any clinical oversight required by the Trust, long term data collection required for the children involved, and the ethics decision minutes by the board when this was introduced.
11. Please advise whether Trust guidance/ policies since 2019 refer, or encourage staff to refer, to fathers (sometimes called 'transwomen') of children of transpeople as mothers, or our mothers (sometimes called 'transmen') as fathers. If so, please provide the various Trust policy/ guidance about this. (The Trust will be aware that this requirement by some LGBT schemes conflicts with UK and international law, including the GRA, UN Rights of the Child, and Freddie McConnell judgement, which protect the welfare of children of transitioners).

## Response Details:

1. 0
2. 0
3. Not applicable.
4. Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) does not hold this information.
5. After considering your request, the UHB believes that section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies. Due to the low numbers of individuals involved, the UHB believes that, when considered with other information already available within the public domain, disclosure would result in the risk of individuals becoming identifiable. The data requested is classed as personal data as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018. Its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute unfair and unlawful processing with regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of the GDPR. We are therefore withholding this detail under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.
6. The UHB believes that section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies and is therefore withholding this detail.
7. The UHB does not hold this information.
8. The UHB does not hold this information.
9. The UHB does not hold this information.
10. The UHB does not hold this information.
11. As per the All Wales guidance, the UHB would, as with all people under its care, follow a patient's preference for the pronouns used and how to address them.

Guidelines published by the UHB state the following, which is similar to statements from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the Royal College of Midwives:

*'The words "woman" and "women" have been used throughout this document as this is the way that the majority of those who are pregnant and having a baby will identify. We recognise maternity and gynaecological services will be accessed by women, gender diverse individuals and those whose gender identity does not align with the sex they were assigned at birth or have a non-binary identity. Therefore, we believe delivery of care must at all times be appropriate, inclusive and sensitive to the needs of everyone.'*