

FoI request re: BAME risk assessments
Ref: 20-KH-0307

Thank you for your request for information relating to BAME risk assessments.

This was received on 5 June 2020 and has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please find our responses below:

Request 1:

Are you carrying out risk assessments for all BAME staff that work for your trust?

We are offering risk assessment to all staff, including BAME and those with underlying conditions.

Request 2:

And if so, how many have you carried out to date?

We do not hold this information in a recordable format.

Request 3:

What does your risk assessment entail?

This request for information does not constitute a valid request under the FOI Act. The FOIA 2000 is to do with transparency of information held by public authorities. It gives an individual the right to access recorded information held by public authorities. The FOIA 2000 does not require public authorities to generate information, or to answer questions, provide explanations or give opinions, unless this is recorded information that they already hold.

The Act is for access to information we may hold in a recordable and easily retrievable format.

Request 4:

How many BAME staff do you have at your trust? (Please include bank, agency, locum, students if possible and explain if you have or haven't and why or why not). We do not hold the ethnicity of agency workers as the agencies do not divulge that information.

Not all staff have declared their ethnicity. Out of 5973 known registered staff members (incl. locum/bank/agency), 2260 have declared their ethnicity as BAME.

Request 5:

Does the trust wait for staff to seek risk assessments or does the trust actively risk assess all members of staff?

All staff are asked if they want to undertake a risk assessment, and this is widely communicated.

I hope you find this information useful. Please quote the above reference in any further communication on this matter.

Whittington Health NHS Trust

Interim Chair: Anu Singh Chief Executive: Siobhan Harrington

If you require any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or at the address shown below.

*The NHS is facing unprecedented challenges relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic at the current time. Understandably, our resources have been diverted to support our front-line colleagues who are working tremendously hard to provide care for our patients, and to those in need of our services.
This is impeding our ability to respond to FOI requests in a timely manner as we do not have the capacity to carry out full searches for information.*

Yours sincerely

FOI Coordinator
Freedom of Information Office
Whittington Health
Highgate Wing, Level 5
Magdala Avenue
London, N19 5NF
foi.whitthealth@nhs.net



If you are dissatisfied with this response, Whittington Health operates a complaints procedure, details of which can be found below:

FOI Complaints:

In the first instance, write to:

Director Lead for Information

Governance

Chief Operating Officer
Jenner Building
Magdala Avenue
London
N19 5NF
020 7288 5255
foi.whitthealth@nhs.net

If you remain dissatisfied with the Trust's response, you may write to:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Telephone: 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745
www.ico.org.uk

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