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Dear

The trust acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) request, referenced above. Please ensure you quote this number in any future correspondence.

FOI Request

You asked us:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust. Please may you provide me with the information for the following:

1. Testing and Management Protocols for Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE)

1.1. Does your trust have a clinical protocol for testing and managing patients for Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE)?

If yes:

- a) Is your CRE testing protocol primarily molecular-based?**
- b) If not, please specify which type of testing protocol is followed.**

1.2. Which diagnostic companies or providers does your trust procure molecular testing kits for services for CRE from?

2. Testing Protocols for *Clostridioides difficile* (C. difficile) Infection

2.1. Does your trust have a formal protocol for testing patients for *Clostridioides difficile* (C. difficile) infection?

If yes:



- a) Is your *C. difficile* testing protocol molecular-based?
- b) If not, please specify the testing method used.

2.2. Which diagnostic companies or providers does your trust procure molecular testing kits for services for *C. difficile* from?

3. Testing and Procurement for Tuberculosis (TB) Resistance

3.1. What methods does your trust use to test for tuberculosis (TB) resistance?

3.2. Which diagnostic companies or providers does your trust procure molecular testing kits for services for TB resistance from?

Formal Response

The Trust confirms it does not hold the information you have requested. This is because we do not test for any of the infections mentioned.

This is carried out in hospitals where they have access to a laboratory

Next steps

Please note you will be able to source a lot of information which is made available on our website.

Should you be dissatisfied with our response then in the first instance please contact Richard Banks, Head of Corporate Governance, via the following email address: FOI@secamb.nhs.uk

You can ask us to review our original response. If you would like us to carry out an internal review, please let us know within 40 working days of you receiving our original response. This review will be conducted by an individual who was not directly involved in reviewing the original response, ordinarily, the Trust Data Protection Officer.

We will endeavour to complete this request within 20 working days.

Should you remain dissatisfied then you can contact the [Information Commissioner's Office](#) (ICO). Complaints to the ICO should be made within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints.

Alternatively, the ICO's postal address is:
Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

**Freedom of Information Coordinator
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust**



Saving Lives,
Serving Our Communities

Chair: Michael Whitehouse CEO: Simon Weldon