



Trust Headquarters  
Nexus House  
Gatwick Road  
Crawley  
West Sussex  
RH10 9BG

Tel: 0300 123 0999  
[www.secamb.nhs.uk](http://www.secamb.nhs.uk)

Date 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/19/11/49.

You requested the following information, please also see our response below:

**I am seeking the following information from between January 2017 and present:**

**1. How many needle cricothyroidotomy's have been performed? Was this by a Paramedic / Advanced Paramedic / Doctor?**

To extract this information would mean going through each individual record and exceed 18hours and would therefore fall under Section 12- FOI (Appropriate limit and fees) Regulations 2004

**2. How many needle cricothyroidotomy's were successfully performed?**

To extract this information would mean going through each individual record and exceed 18hours and would therefore fall under Section 12- FOI (Appropriate limit and fees) Regulations 2004

**3. Does your trust allow the use of surgical airways ? If so, who is authorised to perform them?**

Only Critical Care Paramedics (CCPs) are authorised to undertake surgical airways

**4. How many surgical airway procedures have been performed? Which device was used?**

We have completed 9 surgical airways in the timeframe requested. We use scalpel/dilators/bougie technique

**5. How many surgical airway procedures were successful?**

Success rate is 90%

**6. Has your trust conducted follow-up training (training post initial paramedic qualification) / CPD sessions on needle cric or surgical airways? If so how many and when ?**

CCPs attend Clin 10 training every seven weeks, and this skill is one of the mandatory elements of the skills uplift training.

I hope you find this information of some assistance.

If for any reason you are dissatisfied with our response, kindly in the first instance contact Caroline Smart, Head of Information Governance via the following email address:

[FOI@secamb.nhs.uk](mailto:FOI@secamb.nhs.uk)

Yours sincerely

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