

17 June 2026

Neurology Recall – Diagnostic Categorisation and Audit Data

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information relating to the Neurology Recall conducted by the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust:

1. Audit and Reporting Structure

Please provide copies of any:

- **Audits**
- **Reviews**
- **Summary reports**
- **Outcome analyses**

produced in relation to the Neurology Recall cohort.

This information is not held centrally or available from the Belfast Trust. The Department of Health requested information and the information was analysed by them and is owned by them.

Summary reports can be accessed by using the link below:

[Neurology Recall Cohort 1, 2 and 3 Summary Report | Department of Health](#)

2. Diagnostic Categorisation

Please provide any categorisation framework, coding structure, or classification system used to record patient outcomes following recall.

This includes (but is not limited to):

- **Diagnostic categories**
- **Outcome groupings**
- **Condition-based classifications**

No categorisation framework or coding structure was used other than:

Diagnosis Secure (Yes / No / uncertain)

Management plan (Yes / No / uncertain)

Prescribing appropriate (Yes / No / uncertain).

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The information in relation to patient conditions was taken at a point in time. The information contained within the files was then shared with the Department of Health. They produced the reports.

It is important to note that the data at the time would differ now as patients continue to attend neurology appointments whereby their conditions may have changed or evolved over time.

Cohort 1 did not use a diagnostic categorisation process.
Cohort 2 and 3 used ICD-10 as a diagnostic categorisation tool.

3. Recorded Categories (Neurological Conditions)

From any existing reports or datasets, please provide a list of all neurological conditions or diagnostic categories identified or tracked within the recall cohort

Including any references to:

- **Multiple Sclerosis**
- **Demyelinating disease**
- **Undiagnosed neurological conditions**
- **Diagnostic uncertainty**

This information is not held centrally and would involve a manual trawl of the information to provide a comprehensive list of all neurological conditions of patients that attended the Neurology recall. This information is only at a point in time and may have changed.

To obtain this information would involve a manual trawl of records. Due to the sheer volume of daily manual and electronic rotas for the period specified, we estimate that compliance with this request would require more than 18 hours work.

Belfast Trust considers that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'Appropriate Limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information Act under Section 12. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified as £450 for public authorities such as Belfast Trust. This represents the cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.

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4. Existing Data Extracts (No New Analysis Requested)

Where held, please provide any existing tables, summaries, or extracts showing outcomes of the recall cohort. I am not requesting new analysis or creation of data, only information already recorded or reported

Belfast Trust was not responsible for the analysis or summaries of any data extracts. The information was analysed by the Department of Health.

You can access this information by using the link below:

[Neurology Recall Cohort 1, 2 and 3 Summary Report | Department of Health](#)

5. Internal Concerns or Reviews

Please provide copies of any:

- Internal reviews
- Incident reports
- Governance discussions relating to:
 - Missed diagnoses
 - Delayed diagnoses
 - or diagnostic uncertainty within the recall cohort

This information is not held in a centrally retrievable format and there were no formal internal reviews.

6. Search Clarification

Please confirm:

- Systems searched
- Keywords used

This request is limited to existing recorded information and does not require a manual trawl of individual patient records.

If any information is withheld, please confirm:

- Whether it is held
- The exemption relied upon
- and provide a summary where possible

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In response to your request, Belfast Trust can advise that the information sought is not held in a centrally retrievable format. As such, it is not possible to provide a definitive list of systems searched or keywords used in the manner requested.

The Trust has undertaken proportionate searches in locations reasonably expected to hold relevant recorded information and is satisfied that no additional information is held within scope.

In response to question 6, this request does not require, and the Trust has not undertaken, a manual trawl of individual patient records.

To the extent that elements of your request relate to regional processes, guidance or documentation developed at a Department of Health level, you may wish to direct your enquiry to the Department of Health FOI Team, who may be better placed to assist.

To make a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to the Department of Health Northern Ireland (DoH NI), you can contact their Information Management Branch directly by email or post.

Email: foi@health-ni.gov.uk

Phone: (028) 9052 2190

Post:

*Departmental Information Manager
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Stormont Estate
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