

28 June 2023

Protocols in place for Abortions - Termination of Pregnancy

1. How many abortions have included the procedure whereby the life of the foetus is ended, using potassium chloride or some other chemical, before labour is induced?

- 19

2. Is it the policy of the Trust to administer pain relief to the foetus before such procedures as outlined above, and including evacuation/Dilation and Extraction are performed?

- Our policy is to administer Atracurium prior to the administration of lidocaine/potassium chloride. This acts as an intrauterine neuromuscular blockade. Dosage is dependent on fetal weight, and this is calculated prior to the procedure.

3. What is the protocol in the Trust if a foetus is delivered/induced/born alive following an attempted abortion/termination of pregnancy/induction?

- The Trust is currently developing a protocol for the regional feticide service. This will be informed by legal guidance from DoH. The protocol is not finalised and not available at present.

4. What protocols are in place related to the Termination of Pregnancy?

- The Trust is currently developing a protocol for the regional feticide service. The protocol is not finalised and not available at present.