

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

RF23-420

Request:

1. How many babies were born within your Trust between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
2. How many babies were diagnosed with ankyloglossia (tongue tie) between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31 2022 at your Trust?
3. On average how many days after birth was a tongue tie diagnosis made between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
4. How many babies diagnosed with tongue tie were referred for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
5. Is the frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) available to babies who are fully formula fed?
6. How many frenotomy procedures (tongue tie division) were carried out on babies at your Trust between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
7. What was the average waiting time in days between diagnosis/ referral and a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
8. How many women had to wait 3 weeks or longer after a referral for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) or their baby between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
9. How many women waited more than 6 weeks, 8 weeks, 12 weeks and 16 weeks or longer for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) for their baby between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
10. What is the longest amount of time a woman had to wait after a referral for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) for their baby between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
11. If there is no tongue tie division service in your Trust how many referrals were made to an alternative NHS Service for tongue toe division?
12. How many women declined the offer of a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) within the NHS between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
13. Of the women who declined the offer of a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) within the NHS between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022 are you aware how many sought treatment privately instead?

Response:

We can confirm East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT) holds the information you have requested.

1. 6,254 (all births, all gestations)
2. There were 175 babies who were discharged from hospital after birth in 2022 with a diagnosis of tongue tie. However, we do not hold details on any diagnosis made in the community post discharge.
3. Information not held. We do not record diagnosis date.

4. Information not held.
5. Yes
6. We are unable to respond to this question without exceeding the appropriate cost as set out in section 12 of the FOI Act. The information is not held centrally and to obtain it would involve retrieving and reviewing 780 healthcare records for babies who attended clinics during the requested period.
7. N/A
8. N/A
9. N/A
10. N/A
11. N/A
12. Information is not recorded
13. N/A

(DATE OF RESPONSE: 31 JULY 2023)

