

ND ref. **FOI/16/390**

Freedom of Information

Thank you for your 29/12/16 request for the following information:

Pregnant theatre staff in orthopaedic operating rooms: A national review of the guidelines

I am requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act.

- *Name of Trust*

Answer: Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust

- *Contact email address*

Answer: ndht.FOI@nhs.net

1) Does your occupational health department have any departmental guidelines relating to pregnant staff who work in theatre, in order to protect the health of the mother and baby from radiation and other harmful substances? Yes/No

Answer: Yes we have a Trust-wide policy. Our Occupational Health department support managers with the management of pregnant staff.

2) If yes to (1), please provide these guidelines or policies in full as a single PDF. -----

Answer: Please see the New and Expectant Mothers Policy (sent to requester).

3) Does your theatre department have any department-specific guidelines for pregnant staff who work in theatre, in order to protect the health of the mother and baby from radiation and other harmful substances? Yes/No

Answer: No, we do not have any specific theatre department policy. We follow the Trust Policy including the New and Expectant Mothers Risk Assessment with regard to pregnant staff in all our theatres.

4) If yes to (3), please provide these guidelines or policies in full as a single PDF. -----

Answer: N/A

5) If no internal guidelines are available, does your Trust use any external guidelines (from Royal Colleges, etc) relating to pregnant staff who work in theatres? Yes/No

Answer: No. We have a Trust policy so we do not use external guidelines.

6) If yes to (5), please provide these guidelines in full as a single PDF, or web link. -----

Answer: N/A

Guidelines for completion of this request:

Presence in an orthopaedic theatre while pregnant may cause adverse sequelae for both the mother and the developing foetus.

If you encounter any issues finding the answers to the above, in our experience the following professionals will usually know:

- *Occupational health department*
- *Theatre manager/matron*
- *Orthopaedic registrars/consultants*