

Ref no: 205021120
From: GUY'S AND ST THOMAS' NHS FOUNDATION
Date: 02/11/20
Subject: Consented adult autopsies

REQUEST & RESPONSE

Please may you provide the number of consented adult autopsies performed within your trust in the year2019?

We are unable to provide precise figures when those figures refer to individuals in volumes of 5 or less due to the risk that individuals will be re-identified, as we are required to protect their identity under the General Data Protection Regulations & Data Protection Act 2018. In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed "lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner". It is the lawful aspect of this principle which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure.