

## **FOI\_1508\_2023-24 – FOI Request concerning Congenital cytomegalovirus screening and treatment**

---

Please be advised, with regards to the questions below, Solent NHS Trust does not provide this service and therefore are unable to answer these questions.

- 1. Please provide copies of any Information containing or evidencing Practices used within your Trust whereby newborns who are referred to audiology following their newborn hearing screening test, or newborns/children who demonstrate abnormal hearing at a later stage, are tested for cCMV. Such Practices could include, but are not limited to, early cCMV detection pathways whereby newborns are tested at point of referral to audiology from the newborn hearing screening programme. Please include details about the intended timescales for testing, carrying out tests and returning test results, if this information is recorded.**
- 2. If your Trust does employ Practices whereby newborns/children with abnormal hearing are tested for cCMV, please indicate at which stage samples are taken (you may select more than one):**
  - a) By the newborn hearing screener at the point of referral**
  - b) By the audiologist at the first appointment after babies have been referred from the newborn hearing screen**
  - c) By the audiologist at detection of SNHL in a baby referred from the newborn hearing screen**
  - d) By another healthcare professional (not an audiologist) following detection of SNHL in a baby referred from the newborn hearing screen**
  - e) At detection of SNHL in older babies and children (i.e. after the newborn hearing screening and testing period)**
  - Unknown**
  - Other, please provide details:**
- 3. If your Trust does employ Practices whereby newborns/children with abnormal hearing are tested for cCMV, please indicate what type of sample is taken (you may select more than one):**
  - a) Saliva swab**
  - b) Urine**
  - c) Blood test for the infant**
  - d) Blood test for the mother**
  - e) Infant blood spot (Guthrie) card testing:**
  - Unknown**
  - Other, please provide details:**
- 4. Please provide copies of any Information containing or evidencing Practices used within your Trust whereby children are tested for cCMV as part of investigations**

of symptoms (in either the mother or child) that are unrelated to hearing. These could include:

**Maternal symptoms of CMV (flu-like symptoms) Symptoms of congenital infection identified before or after birth, such as:**

- a) Antenatal abnormalities e.g. on ultrasound scan
- b) Characteristic rashes caused by cCMV (petechiae or blueberry muffin rash)
- c) Intrauterine Growth Restriction
- d) Microcephaly
- e) Jaundice
- f) Hepatosplenomegaly
- g) Neonatal visual signs/symptoms
- h) Neonatal seizures

**4.1 Symptoms of congenital infection in older children, such as:**

- a) Neurodevelopmental delays
- b) Special educational needs and disabilities (e.g. autism, ADHD)
- c) Cerebral palsy
- d) Seizures
- e) Visual or sensory impairment

5. Please provide copies of any Information containing or evidencing Practices used within your Trust following a diagnosis of cCMV in a child. This could include, but is not limited to:
- a) Information about any Practices involving the prescribing of antiviral treatments
  - b) Details of the department(s) that the child would be referred to

*Questions 6-9 relate to the provision of data for a specific five-year period. If you do not hold data for this time period, please supply data for any period for which you have available data (preferably a recent five-year period) and specify the beginning and end dates. If the answer to any question is between 1 and 5 (and therefore the true figure cannot be shared in accordance with Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act), please indicate this by giving the answer "<5". Please also indicate if the relevant hospitals or services within your Trust have changed during this period.*

6. Between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2022, how many children were diagnosed with cCMV within 28 days of birth, within your Trust? This should include children born outside of your Trust who were diagnosed by services within your Trust.
7. Of the children who were diagnosed with cCMV within 28 days of birth in this time period (Q6), how many:
- a) Previously had a newborn hearing screening test
  - b) Had been referred to audiology following their newborn hearing screening test
  - c) Were given antiviral treatment for cCMV following diagnosis

- 8. Between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2022, how many children were diagnosed with cCMV between 28 days and 18 years of age, within your Trust? This should include children born outside of your Trust who were diagnosed by services within your Trust.**
  
- 9. Of the children who were diagnosed with cCMV between 28 days and 18 years of age in this time period (Q8), how many:**
  - a) Previously had a newborn hearing screening test**
  - b) Had been referred to audiology following their newborn hearing screening test**
  - c) Were given antiviral treatment for cCMV following diagnosis**