

By email to: [REDACTED]

Human Tissue Authority

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London
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Tel 020 7269 1900

Web www.hta.gov.uk

Email enquiries@hta.gov.uk

Date: 17 January 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which was received by the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) on Friday 17 December 2021. Your email outlined the following request:

“I request the following under FOI about the licensed activities being undertaken at the Royal Free Hospital, under HTA Licence 11016:

1. Is this establishment licensed to procure cells from human umbilical cord **tissue** (i.e., not cord blood)?
2. Is this establishment licensed to export/distribute cells derived from human umbilical **tissue** to (i) the London Welbeck Hospital and/or (ii) LifePlus Stem Cells company and/or (iii) the Harley Street Skin Clinic?
3. Please inform me of all companies that this establishment is allowed to provide with cells derived from umbilical cord **tissue** according to its licence.
4. Is this establishment licensed to store human cells derived from adipose tissue that have been procured by the following companies: (i) London Welbeck Hospital and/or (ii) LifePlus Stem Cells company and/or (iii) the Harley Street Skin Clinic?
5. The last inspection report for this establishment was 2018. Are there any more recent reports? If so can I have a copy? When will this establishment be next inspected?”

Response

1. Is this establishment licensed to procure cells from human umbilical cord **tissue** (i.e., not cord blood)?

The Royal Free Hospital is not licensed by the HTA for any activities involving umbilical cord tissue or cells derived from human cord tissue for the purposes of human application.

Please note, the absence of an HTA licence does not necessarily mean that any person or organisation is acting unlawfully as licensable activities may be undertaken by appropriately licensed third parties. An HTA licence may also not be needed for the storage, processing and distribution of human tissues or cells if they are used in the manufacture of an Advanced Therapy Medicinal Product (ATMP).

2. Is this establishment licensed to export/distribute cells derived from human umbilical **tissue** to (i) the London Welbeck Hospital and/or (ii) LifePlus Stem Cells company and/or (iii) the Harley Street Skin Clinic?

Please see response to question 1.

3. Please inform me of all companies that this establishment is allowed to provide with cells derived from umbilical cord **tissue** according to its licence.

Please see response to question 1.

4. Is this establishment licensed to store human cells derived from adipose tissue that have been procured by the following companies: (i) London Welbeck Hospital and/or (ii) LifePlus Stem Cells company and/or (iii) the Harley Street Skin Clinic?

The Royal Free Hospital is not licensed by the HTA to store either adipose tissue or human cells derived from adipose tissue for the purposes of human application.

5. The last inspection report for this establishment was 2018. Are there any more recent reports? If so can I have a copy? When will this establishment be next inspected?"

The last inspection of the Royal Free Hospital (under the Human Application licence number 11016) conducted by the HTA was in 2018. There are no more recent reports.

We expect the next routine inspection to be in quarter four of 2021/22. Any projected timeline is of course subject to any issues linked to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Further information

If you are unhappy with the way the HTA has handled your request for information in this case, you may in the first instance ask us for an internal review by writing to us at the above postal or email address.

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision, at the address below. There is no charge for making an appeal.

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45

Website: www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

