

By email to: [REDACTED]

Human Tissue Authority

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Date 24 February 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request or information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act), which was received by the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) on Tuesday 1 February 2022. Your email outlined the following request:

“Hi, I would like to submit a FOI request for the latest available United Kingdom annual data for the following: 1. Number of umbilical cord blood units banked privately each year, for the last 6 years 2. Number of umbilical cord tissue units banked privately each year, for the last 6 years 3. Number of private cord blood units processed each year, for the last 6 years 4. Number of private cord tissue units processed each year, for the last 6 years 5. Total number of privately stored cord blood units as of now (latest data) 6. Total number of privately stored cord tissue units as of now (latest data) 7. Number of umbilical cord blood units banked publicly (donated) each year, for the last 6 years 8. Number of umbilical cord tissue units banked publicly (donated) each year, for the last 6 years 9. Number of publicly stored cord blood units processed each year, for the last 6 years 10. Number of publicly stored cord tissue units processed each year, for the last 6 years 11. Total number of publicly stored cord blood units as of now (latest data) 12. Total number of publicly stored cord tissue units as of now (latest data) 13. Number of people registered to be potential stem cell donors each year, for the last 6 years Thank you for your assistance.”

Response

Please find the information you have requested below.

| Year | Number of umbilical cord blood units banked privately each year | Number of umbilical cord tissue units banked privately each year | Number of private cord blood units processed each year | Number of private cord tissue units processed each year | Number of umbilical cord blood units banked publicly (donated) each | Number of umbilical cord tissue units banked publicly (donated) each year | Number of publicly stored cord blood units processed each year | Number of publicly stored cord tissue units processed each year |
|------|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| 2016 | 44,062 | 28,326 | 11,273 | 1047 | 8483 | 475 | 4119 | 0 |
| 2017 | 21,831 | 27,824 | 12,446 | 9847 | 8348 | 0 | 2872 | 0 |
| 2018 | 55,027 | 57,399 | 15,078 | 11,956 | 9725 | 0 | 2573 | 0 |
| 2019 | 47,553 | 66,433 | 16,677 | 11,020 | 7956 | 0 | 1988 | 0 |
| 2020 | 39,723 | 43,890 | 14,107 | 12258 | 6619 | 0 | 837 | 4 |
| 2021 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |

* - this information is not available as the data collection exercise is ongoing

Total number of privately stored cord blood units as of 31 December 2020 – 379,548

Total number of privately stored cord tissue units as of 31 December 2020 – 468,822

Total number of publicly stored cord blood units as of 31 December 2020 – 21,938

Total number of publicly stored cord tissue units as of 31 December 2020 – 0

The HTA does not collect data regarding the number of people registered to be potential stem cell donors.

Please note, the HTA does not collect specific data regarding whether samples are processed or banked for public or private use. The numbers presented above are based on the HTA's understanding of each licensed establishment's operating model. Furthermore, the HTA does not collect data regarding the number of umbilical cord blood or tissue units banked each year. The numbers presented above have been calculated using other data that has been submitted to the HTA. It should also be noted that not all collected samples end up in storage. Units may be disposed of before or after processing if an establishment's acceptance criteria are not met. Multiple units may be generated following processing.

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

