

Human Tissue Authority  
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**Email** [enquiries@hta.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@hta.gov.uk)

**Date** 2 August 2017

By email to: [REDACTED]

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 24 July 2017. Your email outlined the following request:

*How many child bone marrow /blood cases have been approved and rejected in 2014-2015 and 2015-2016*

### Response

Under the Human Tissue Act 2004 (Persons who Lack Capacity to Consent and Transplants) Regulations 2006, the HTA has responsibility for assessing bone marrow and peripheral blood stem cell (PBSC) cases from adults who lack capacity to consent and children who are not competent to consent to the removal of transplantable material (in England, Wales and Northern Ireland). There is no requirement for the HTA to consider bone marrow or PBSC cases which involve children who are competent to consent to donation.

Separate pieces of legislation govern donation and transplantation in Scotland. Under the Human Tissue (Scotland) Act 2006 and the Human Organ and Tissue Live Transplants (Scotland) Regulations 2006, there is a requirement for all cases involving donors under 16 to be referred to the HTA for consideration.

The information which is contained in the Delivery Reports and Regulatory Activity Reports (before November 2016). Our Delivery report forms part of our Board reporting at the meetings in September, November, February and May each year. In each report, you will find data on our assessment of bone marrow and PBSC donations from:

- adults who lack the capacity to consent; and
- children who lack competence for the previous quarter, as well as the year to date.

The reports can be found at the following link: <https://www.hta.gov.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/authority-meetings-topic-listings>.

The data for the time period you have requested can be accessed using the following links:

- <https://www.hta.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Full Pack May Authority.pdf> (page 46, table 5).
- <https://www.hta.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Papers for the 28 April 2015 Authority Meeting.pdf> (page 46, bottom table).

The HTA does not hold information about donations involving children who are competent to consent to donation.

The HTA has not rejected any bone marrow or peripheral blood stem cell (PBSC) cases submitted to the HTA for consideration to date.

### **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 or complaint, you have the right to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision, at the address below:

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.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

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