

Human Tissue Authority
151 Buckingham Palace Road
London
SW1W 9SZ

██████████
By email to ██████████

Tel 020 7269 1900
Web www.hta.gov.uk
Email enquiries@hta.gov.uk
Date 2 October 2018

Dear ██████████

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 13 September 2018. Your email outlined the following request:

Please forgive the delay in coming back to you and thank you so much for helping to provide this info.

I have a couple of more questions where I would like to find out some more details under FOIR.

1) For the attached document (which details 4 specific cases) I would like to request:

- * How and where were the bodies brought into the UK
- * What documentation has been provided to the HTA
- * Which companies have provided the documentation
- * Which specific act were the bodies brought into the UK under

2) Other UK hospitals / medical facilities / training or research institutions

- * Since 2006 - how many licences for imported plastinated bodies / specimens / tissue samples have been issued in the UK?
- * Please can you provide details, as with last FOIR, for specific licences
- * Since 2006 - (for above details) which countries have supplied specimens / bodies / tissue samples

Thanks and I look forward to hearing from you again soon,

Kind regards,

Response

Please see the following answers to your specific questions.

1) For the attached document (which details 4 specific cases), I would like to request:

* How and where were the bodies brought into the UK?

HTA response

For all four licence holders, plastinated material was imported. We do not hold specific records of where or how material was brought into the UK.

* What documentation has been provided to the HTA?

HTA response

For HTA licensing number 12482, we hold documentation relating to the provenance and legality of the plastinated bodies; specifically, a letter from the supplier and translated Chinese documents relating to each body.

For licensing number 12540, we do not hold the assurance documentation; however, these are described in the inspection report from 22 October 2009. This inspection took place before we began publishing inspection reports on our website.

For licensing number 12599, it should be noted that the same exhibits were involved in the exhibition relating to HTA licensing number 12540. We do not hold the assurance documentation.

For licensing number 12679, we hold documentation relating to the provenance and legality of the plastinated bodies; specifically, declarations from a representative of the Dalian Medical University and a statement from a Chinese law firm.

* Which companies have provided the documentation?

HTA response

For licensing number 12482, the supplier in the USA was Corcoran Laboratories Inc. For licensing number 12679, the supplier was the Dalian Hoffen Bio-Technique Co. Ltd and the law firm was Liaoning Chengxi Law Firm.

* Which specific act were the bodies brought into the UK under?

HTA response

For these cases, our remit covers only the Human Tissue Act 2004 where it applies in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

2) Other UK hospitals / medical facilities / training or research institutions

* Since 2006 - how many licences for imported plastinated bodies / specimens / tissue samples have been issued in the UK?

* Please can you provide details, as with last FOIR, for specific licences?

* Since 2006 - (for above details) which countries have supplied specimens / bodies / tissue samples?

HTA response

We do not issue licences for importation.

Although HTA-licensed establishments may wish to import human material, we do not license importation itself. There are therefore no HTA licensing processes for importation and there are no restrictions placed on importation by the Human Tissue Act 2004. As set out before, we do not apply any specific restrictions based on any particular country and we set out our expectations for imported material in our Codes of Practice.

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. 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.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area, obscuring the name and any handwritten notes or dates.