

Email: foi.tsdf@nhs.net
Our Ref: TSD10848

15 October 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

Request for Information

We are writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information you requested.

A copy of the information is below:

Regarding timing in endoscope reprocessing:

1. **How many endoscopes are reprocessed at your trust per month?**
1352
2. **Is the time interval between procedure and pre-cleaning recorded?**
No
 - a) **If so, how is this recorded?**
Not applicable
 - b) **What is the average time taken to reach a pre-cleaned state?**
Anecdotal evidence suggests an average time of 3-4 minutes
3. **Is the time interval between pre-cleaning and manual cleaning recorded?**
No
 - a) **If so, how is this recorded?**
Not applicable
 - b) **What is the average time taken to reach manual cleaning?**
Not applicable
4. **Are there timestamps for individual stages of reprocessing?**
No
 - a) **How are timestamps recorded during reprocessing?**
Not applicable

5. Is the duration of manual cleaning recorded?

No

a) If so, how is this recorded?

Not applicable

b) What is the average duration of manual cleaning?

Anecdotal evidence suggests an average time of 10 minutes

6. How are critical time barriers monitored?

Scope Trac monitors how long each scope has been outside the drying cabinet and flags it if it has timed out when staff attempt to track or use it.

7. Is there a staff member responsible for time management?

Yes

a) If so, who undertakes this responsibility?

Decontamination team leader

Regarding staffing and traceability:

1. How many staff members are involved in the transport process (from pre-clean to manual clean)?

1 person per room

2. Does your trust use an electronic tracking/traceability system?

Yes

a) If so, what is the name/type of the system?

Scope Trac

3. How do staff know which scopes should be reprocessed first?

In order of arrival unless there is a specialist scope

4. Would staff be interested in time-lapse indicator labels?

No

Regarding delays in endoscope reprocessing:

1. During the last 12 months, how many endoscopes required repeat or additional reprocessing due to delays between bedside pre-cleaning and manual cleaning?

None

1. How many scopes, on average, are not reprocessed within one hour per month?

None

2. How many endoscopes are reprocessed out of sequence per month?

None

Regarding endoscope cleaning practices:

1. During the last 12 months, how many endoscopes were removed from service due to blocked channels?

15 were sent for repair

2. Does the Trust record incidents involving blocked endoscope channels?

Yes

- a) If yes, please provide the number of incidents recorded in the last 12 months.

15

3. Which endoscope channel(s) are most commonly reported as blocked?

a) Biopsy channel

b) Suction channel

c) Air/water channel

d) Auxiliary channel

e) Other

4. How many endoscopes required repeat manual cleaning during the last 12 months?

None

5. How many endoscopes failed cleanliness verification tests during the last 12 months?

None

6. Does the trust record reasons for failed cleanliness tests?

Never had a failure

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting.

If you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact us, quoting the FOI reference number above.

If you are unhappy with the way in which we have handled your request, please contact the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Lead in the first instance. If you wish to make a formal complaint, you should write to our Complaints Manager at Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, First Floor Bowyer Building, Torbay Hospital, Torquay TQ2 7AA or by email to tsdft.feedback@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will only make a decision once you have exhausted the complaints and/or internal review process provided by us. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or through this link <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team