

Our Ref: NG/RM/26082
Date: 25th March 2026

Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
Lawton House
Bellringer Road
Trentham
ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 19th March 2026. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

I am conducting analysis on the diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease and would be grateful if you could answer the questions below for all relevant activity within the Trust.

1. Where, if at all, does the Trust carry out lumbar punctures (cerebrospinal fluid) for diagnosing patients with Alzheimer's Disease?

	No
Lumbar punctures carried out within the Trust itself	No
Lumbar punctures referred elsewhere and carried out external to the Trust	No
Trust does not carry out lumbar punctures to diagnose Alzheimer's Disease	No

2. Please provide a list of the full names of other Trusts or other organisations to which the Trust refers patients for lumbar puncture procedures in the diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease.

Full name of organisation(s)
N/A

3. How many lumbar puncture procedures to test for Alzheimer's Disease were performed in the last three-month period for which data are available?

	Number of procedures
Number of lumbar punctures	0

4. Where, if at all, does the Trust carry out Blood Biomarker (BBM) tests for diagnosing NHS patients with Alzheimer's Disease?

	No
Pathology laboratory within the Trust	N/A
Pathology laboratory external to the Trust	N/A
Trust does not test for BBMs to diagnose Alzheimer's Disease	N/A

5. Please provide a list of the full names of other Trusts or other organisations, to which the Trust refers Blood Biomarker tests for the diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease for NHS patients.

Full name of Trust or organisation(s)
N/A

6. Please provide the number of BBM tests for Alzheimer's Disease conducted over the last three-months, regardless of whether they were carried out within your organisation or sent to an external pathology laboratory.

	Number of tests TOTAL	Number of tests NHS patients	Number of tests Private Sector
Number of Blood Biomarker tests	None	None	None

7. Which of the following biomarker tests were used to detect Alzheimer's Disease?

	No
pTau181 immunoassay tests	None
pTau217 immunoassay tests	None

8. Please provide a list of the full names of other Trusts or other organisations, to which the Trust refers samples for pTau181 and pTau217 immunoassay testing for Alzheimer's Disease?

Full name of Trust or organisation(s)
N/A

9. How many pTau181 immunoassay tests were conducted to test for Alzheimer's Disease in the last three-months?

	Number of tests TOTAL	Number of tests NHS patients	Number of tests Private Sector
Number of pTau181 tests	None	None	None

10. Is **pTau181** testing for Alzheimer's Disease linked to, or conducted in conjunction with, clinical trials?

	No
pTau181 Testing associated with clinical trial activity	None

11. How many pTau181 immunoassay tests were conducted for Alzheimer's Disease as part of a clinical trial?

Number of pTau181 tests	None
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12. How many pTau217 immunoassay tests were conducted to test for Alzheimer's Disease in the last three-months?

	Number of tests TOTAL	Number of tests NHS patients	Number of tests Private Sector
Number of pTau217 tests	None	None	None

13. Is pTau217 testing for Alzheimer's Disease linked to, or conducted in conjunction with, clinical trials?

	No
pTau217 Testing associated with clinical trial activity	None

14. How many pTau217 immunoassay tests were conducted for Alzheimer's Disease as part of a clinical trial?

Number of pTau217 tests	None
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15. Does your organisation participate in any of the following clinical trials?

	Yes
READ-OUT	Yes
ADAPT	No
Other(s) please specify below:	

16. Which of the following metrics are used by the Trust to measure Blood Biomarkers in the diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease?

	None
Number of tests	
Number of kits	
Number of runs	
Number of units	
Number of patients	

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance