

Ref no: 178090419
From: Public
Date: 09/04/19
Subject: Fitted stomas

REQUEST

I would like to request the figures of how many women have undergone a caesarean section (both emergency and elective) and had a stoma fitted at the caesarean section in the last 12 months.

RESPONSE

The figure is less than 5. We are unable to provide precise figures when these are five or less due to the risk that individuals will be identified, as we are required to protect their identity under the Data Protection Act. In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. It is the fairness aspect of this principle which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.