

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 3695

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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to fetuses that were miscarried, stillborn or aborted and children up to one year old from 1988 to the present day (Nov 2016).

Please supply information for all of the questions below relevant to - fetuses that were miscarried, stillborn or aborted and children up to one year old from 1988 to the present day (Nov 2016).

- 1. Are you holding organs or tissue samples or bodies of fetuses that were miscarried, stillborn, aborted or of children up to one year old, pending disposal?*
- 2. If yes to Q1, please report how many organs, tissue samples, body parts or bodies of fetuses that were miscarried, stillborn, aborted or of children up to one year old you have retained and still have?*
- 3. In how many of these cases of fetuses that were miscarried, stillborn or aborted or of children up to one year old **which have been retained and you still have** was consent given by the nearest relatives to take, use and dispose of organs or tissue samples or body parts or bodies?*
- 4. In how many of these cases of fetuses that were miscarried, stillborn or aborted or of children up to one year old **which were retained but have since been disposed of** was consent given by the nearest relatives to take, use and dispose of organs or tissue samples or body parts or bodies?*

1. Only for diagnostic purposes. Then these are sensitively disposed of one month after the final report is issued.
2. The Trust is only holding on to products of conception. We currently have 203 products of conception, the majority of which will probably not contain foetal material.

3. All. Consent is obtained at the time of the procedure for histological procedures. The 'patient'/relative can decline consent.
4. All. Consent as in 3.

Note: Blocks and slides are kept under histological specimen criteria. On request the nearest relative can ask that all tissue be returned to them.