

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 3831

Please reply to:
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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 Multiparametric MRI.

Please find attached a copy of your letter in response to a “freedom of information” request. Please can you explain the answer at point 1 in your letter which, at best seems factually incorrect and at worse, deliberately misleading.

Your letter clearly states at point 1 that the Trust does provide multi-parametric MRI scans prior to biopsies but, I have been told by the consultant at Maidstone Hospital that only larger tumours will be detected thereby. I have been advised that there are no machines suitable for mpMRI scans at either Maidstone or Tunbridge Wells hospitals.

The web-site here seems to be clearly relying on the information provided in your letter -

https://public.tableau.com/profile/ali.cooper#!/vizhome/mpMRIFOIpublicdashbord-ProstateCancerUK_0/FullresultsStory as shown by the map excerpt below.

At Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust we perform mpMRI for all Prostate scans. This is done as one of the first tests right at the start of the care pathway, before biopsy.

Some patients do not go on to have a biopsy, others do and for some the mpMRI will help guide this so that there is a decreased risk of a negative biopsy.

These different pathways are decided on an individual patient basis and are related to the patients presenting symptoms, blood tests and clinical findings by the Consultant Urologist.

The Prostate Cancer UK website information is accurate.