

Ref. No: 2416
Date: 11/03/26
Subject: Disposal of blood/bone marrow due to storage alarm failure

REQUEST & RESPONSE

I would like to request information relating to incidents affecting the storage of blood and bone marrow within your Trust.

For the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025 (or the most recent 3 complete years for which data is available), please provide the following information.

1. Blood

The total number of units of blood disposed of as a result of failures relating to storage equipment or monitoring systems, including incidents recorded as:

- blood refrigerator or storage unit failure
- temperature monitoring or alarm failure
- fridge/freezer alarm malfunction or failure to activate
- equipment malfunction affecting blood storage
- power failure affecting blood storage equipment

Please also provide:

- The number of incidents or occasions where such disposal occurred.
- The largest single incident during this period (i.e. the highest number of units disposed of in one event) and the number of units involved.

2 units of red cells, both units disposed.

2. Bone Marrow / Stem Cell Products

The total number of bone marrow or stem cell units/products disposed of due to the same categories of equipment, monitoring, alarm, or power failures listed above.

Please also provide:

- The number of incidents or occasions where this occurred.
- The largest single incident during this period and the number of units involved.

N/A

3. Operational Impact

Where recorded, please provide:

- The number of surgical operations or procedures cancelled or postponed as a direct result of these incidents.

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4. Monitoring and Detection (if recorded)

Where this information is recorded, please provide for the largest incident identified above:

- Whether the issue was identified automatically by an alarm or monitoring system, or identified manually by staff.
- The approximate duration of the temperature excursion or equipment failure before it was detected, if recorded.

Notification received by monitoring system, 10 minute delay for notification

