

**Reference Number:** FOI202324/374  
**From:** Other  
**Date:** 13 November 2023  
**Subject:** Tourniquet use, type and trust policies

**Q1** The type and number of tourniquets used for venepuncture and cannulation annually in your Hospital Trust, specifically whether you use single use (disposable) or reusable tourniquets and what material they are made out of.

**A1** The Trust use single use only disposable tourniquets. The product is latex free V-Loc. Since April 2023 289 boxes have been ordered across the Trust with 100 items per box.

**Q2** If you use a mix of both, whether there is there any Trust policy for deciding which tourniquet to use.

**A2** Trust policy is for single use only disposable tourniquets.

**Q3** When you first introduced single use tourniquets, if you do use them.

**A3** Information not held – the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data.

**Q4** The cost per single use tourniquet/other type of tourniquet you use (or total annual cost)

**A4**

Item description	Total Annual Cost (£)
Single Use Tourniquet In dispenser box and Latex Free	34.80
Single Use Tourniquet Single use easy lock easy open	91.20
Single Use Tourniquet Single Use Quick Release Button Latex Free	5483.52
Single Use Tourniquet Stretch quick release single use button type latex free pink	979.20
Single Use Tourniquet TourniButton In dispenser box and Latex Free	182.70
Tourniquet Reusable elasticated quick release for adults and paediatric latex free each	8.70
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6780.12</b>

**Q5** The MRSA infection rates at your Trust, for three years either side of your introduction of single use tourniquets, referring to bloodstream infections (bacteraemia's) rather than surface carriage.

**A5** Information not held – the Trust have records of MRSA bacteraemia's but are unable to state whether these are in relation to single use tourniquets.

**Q6** Whether you implemented any of the following infection control procedures within the same year as implementing single use tourniquets:

- Stricter hand hygiene policy
- Staff education programme on infection control procedures
- Screening of patients for MRSA on admission to hospital
- Isolation or decolonisation of patients who tested positive for MRSA

A6 We are unable to identify the exact date of implementation of single use tourniquets however MRSA screening, decolonisation and isolation has been in place at Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital NHS Foundation Trust for over 20 years and is likely to pre-date single use tourniquets.