

**Freedom of Information Act 2000****The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request****Date Request Received: 10/01/2024****FOI Ref No: 23259****Requested Information**

1. Prior to blood culture collection, what skin asepsis solution does your hospital/Trust/Health Board use in the skin preparation/ cleaning process - (a) licensed skin antiseptics applicator (b) licensed skin disinfection wipe (c) non licensed wipe (d) other?
2. How long do you clean the patient's skin for and what technique is used?
3. How long does your organisation allow the patients skin to dry before blood culture collection?
4. Do you know the percentage of contamination rate of blood cultures in your organisation?
5. What is the management process following a confirmed blood sample contamination. Is it escalation to (a) infection control team (b) microbiology (c) education and development (d) other, please specify or (e) no process?

**Response**

1. **(a) – licensed skin antiseptics applicator**
2. **See attachment 1**
3. **See attachment 1**
4. **2.5% during 2023**
5. **(d) the result is released with a comment to highlight that it is a possible contaminant. The consultant microbiologist decides what results are likely to be clinically insignificant.**

**Attachment(s)**Chloraprep  
Posters.pdf

Attachment 1

Information Governance

Version No: 1

Review Date: 2026

Date Response sent: 18/01/2024