



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-293

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Quality, Safety and Compliance Department
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 30th August 2019

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 19th August 2019 (received into our office 20th August) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding intravenous voriconazole injection.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in question 1 is not held centrally, but may be recorded in individual health records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all individual health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all individual health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for.

In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

Under section 16 of the FOI Act we are required to provide requestors with advice and assistance where possible. We would therefore like to advise you that if your request is shortened to just questions 2 and 3 we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame. In order to avoid delay to your response we have provided this below.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information legislation to request the following information from University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust for the period 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019:

- 1. The total number of individual doses of intravenous voriconazole administered to patients in the above organisation during the above period.**
 - a) Please note, this request does not relate to the number of dose units of voriconazole injection used (as one dose may use more than one vial).**
 - b) Please note, this request does not relate to the number of patients given intravenous voriconazole (as one patient will usually receive multiple doses).**

- c) I appreciate that this information will probably only be available if the above organisation uses an electronic prescribing and medicines administration system.
- d) If this information is only available for part(s) of the above organisation, please provide this partial information and state to which parts of the organisation it applies (see also point 2a below)

A1 UHNM does not have electronic prescribing therefore this information would be recorded in individual patient notes: - Section 12 and 14 exemptions as detailed above.

Q2 The total number of dose units of voriconazole intravenous injection supplied for use within the above organisation during the above period.

- a) If for request 1 you are only able to provide information for part of your organisation (see point 1d), please also state the number of dose units of voriconazole injection supplied for use within these same areas.
- b) Please exclude voriconazole injection supplied by the above organisation for use within a different organisation.

A2 148 x 200mg vials were used at UHNM from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019

Q3 In the above organisation, is the NHS Injectable Medicines Guide (commonly known as “Medusa” - <http://medusa.wales.nhs.uk/>) used at ward level by staff preparing intravenous medicines for administration to patients?

- a) If the NHS Injectable Medicines Guide is only used in this way in parts of the above organisation, please state these areas.

A3 This is widely used across the Trust. It is incorporated within the Medicines Policy and in the routine training.

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

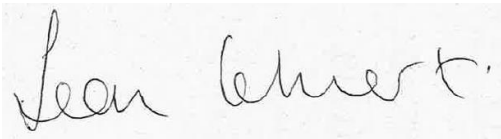
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



Jean Lehnert
Information Governance Manager