



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-643

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Data, Security and Protection
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 10th January 2024

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 29th December 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and regarding drug overdose

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 Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to ask the following information regarding drug overdoses please, and would like the information broken down by hospital site. If this is not possible, please state that the data is at trust level. Please email this information.

1) How many admissions related to drug overdose for year 2022?

A1 We do not record on Careflow the reason why a patient was admitted. We only record information on Careflow diagnoses/conditions identified during the patients stay and any treatments/procedures undertaken. It is to be noted there is no correlation between diagnoses and treatments so to identify if a patient was treated for a drug overdose you would have to manually review a patients record to ascertain this information

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 this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in health records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all 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 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*

Q2 How many admissions related to drug overdose from January to November 2023?

A2 We do not record on Careflow the reason why a patient was admitted. We only record information on Careflow diagnoses/conditions identified during the patients stay and any treatments/procedures undertaken. It is to be noted there is no correlation between diagnoses and treatments so to identify if a patient was treated for a drug overdose you would have to manually review a patients record to ascertain this information

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Q3 What are the most common drug overdose cases admitted in your hospital?

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Q4 How many patients admitted for drug overdose received medical treatment at a ward level 2022?

A4 We do not record on Careflow the reason why a patient was admitted. We only record information on Careflow diagnoses/conditions identified during the patients stay and any treatments/procedures undertaken. It is to be noted there is no correlation between diagnoses

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Q5 How many patients admitted for drug overdose received medical treatment at a ward level Jan - Nov 2023?

A5 We do not record on Careflow the reason why a patient was admitted. We only record information on Careflow diagnoses/conditions identified during the patients stay and any treatments/procedures undertaken. It is to be noted there is no correlation between diagnoses and treatments so to identify if a patient was treated for a drug overdose you would have to manually review a patients record to ascertain this information

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Q6 How many patients admitted for drug overdose required admission to the intensive care unit for advanced medical intervention such as mechanical ventilation and continuous renal replacement therapy in 2022?

A6 We do not record on Careflow the reason why a patient was admitted. We only record information on Careflow diagnoses/conditions identified during the patients stay and any treatments/procedures undertaken. It is to be noted there is no correlation between diagnoses and treatments so to identify if a patient was treated for a drug overdose you would have to manually review a patients record to ascertain this information

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Q7 How many patients admitted for drug overdose required admission to the intensive care unit for advanced medical intervention such as mechanical ventilation and continuous renal replacement therapy in January - November 2023?

A7 We do not record on Careflow the reason why a patient was admitted. We only record information on Careflow diagnoses/conditions identified during the patients stay and any treatments/procedures undertaken. It is to be noted there is no correlation between diagnoses and treatments so to identify if a patient was treated for a drug overdose you would have to manually review a patients record to ascertain this information

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Q8 What is the average length of stay for those patients admitted for drug overdose in your intensive/critical care unit?

A8 We do not record on Careflow the reason why a patient was admitted. We only record information on Careflow diagnoses/conditions identified during the patients stay and any treatments/procedures undertaken. It is to be noted there is no correlation between diagnoses and treatments so to identify if a patient was treated for a drug overdose you would have to manually review a patients record to ascertain this information

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Q9 What is the total number of deaths related to drug overdose in your hospital in 2022?

A9 We do not record on Careflow the reason why a patient was admitted. We only record information on Careflow diagnoses/conditions identified during the patients stay and any treatments/procedures undertaken. It is to be noted there is no correlation between diagnoses and treatments so to identify if a patient was treated for a drug overdose you would have to manually review a patients record to ascertain this information

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Q10 What is the total number of deaths related to drug overdose in your hospital Jan-Nov 2023?

A10 We do not record on Careflow the reason why a patient was admitted. We only record information on Careflow diagnoses/conditions identified during the patients stay and any treatments/procedures undertaken. It is to be noted there is no correlation between diagnoses and treatments so to identify if a patient was treated for a drug overdose you would have to manually review a patients record to ascertain this information

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

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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.

Yours,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records