

Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-007

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

Date: 23rd April 2019

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 2nd April 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding people with Parkinson's.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) 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 The below freedom of information request is around medication management for people with Parkinson's in your hospital. I look forward to receiving the responses to the below questions

Training and staff awareness

Q1. What training is provided/sourced by the Trust to raise awareness among staff (in particular ward based staff) about the needs of inpatients with Parkinson's, particularly around timing of medication for these patients?

A1 Training is available on request for ward staff. Parkinson's medication is highlighted as a 'Critical medication' on medication charts to ensure patients received their medication on time.

Q2 How many
a) staff overall a
b) ward based staff have undertaken such training during 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 to date?

A2 Information not held

Q3 Alert system

Does the Trust have any kind of electronic (or other) alert system in place to flag to the Parkinson's service when a person with the condition is admitted to hospital in a) a planned way and b) as an emergency?

A3 There is no alert system in place, but wards refer to the PD nurse service via the referral form on the intranet- forms are emailed to the generic email address. A Parkinson's Disease (PD) Management in Acute Admissions Trust guideline is available electronically to staff which includes management of medications in swallowing difficulties or nil-by-mouth situations".

- Q4** If the Trust does not have an alert system, how are the Parkinson's specialist service notified and subsequently involved in the care of a person admitted with Parkinson's (whether or not Parkinson's is the reason for admission.)
- A4 As answer 3
- Q5** Self-administration of medication policies
Does the Trust have a self-administration of medication policy? If a policy does not currently exist, are there any current plans to implement one?
- A5 The Trust has enabled a self-administration policy and a policy is currently being developed.
- Q6** If a self-administration policy is not implemented, why is this case?
- A6 Please refer to answer 5
- Q7** If a self-administration policy is in place what systems and protocols are in place to
a) Ensure full and effective implementation
b) Monitor its implementation?
- A7 Approved robust SOPs and relevant competency training and assessment for each clinical area which implements self-administration
- Q8** Carers
Does the Trust have a policy that allows carers to visit the person with Parkinson's they care for outside of visiting hours?
- A8 Please refer to the attached policy C01
- Q9** What training do ward staff receive to ensure they fully understand how a carer can support an inpatient with things such as mobilising and their medication regime etc.?
- A9 Neurosciences offer training to wards for PD patients upon request
- Q10** What systems and protocols are in place for ward staff to work with carers supporting the person with Parkinson's in hospital to ensure flexibility when the need arises?
- A10 Please refer to answer 8
- Q11** Practical resources
Is the Trust aware of the practical resources available from Parkinson's UK to support Parkinson's patients getting their medication on time (e.g. laminate bedside clocks, washbags) and how to access these resources?
- A11 Information has been provided to Emergency centre regarding care of Parkinson patients/ medication/ carers
- Q12** Does the Trust make use of these practical resources?
- A12 Yes

Q13 Patient safety incidents

Are incidents of?

a) Missed Parkinson's medication doses

b) Delays to the administration of doses of Parkinson's medication reported as patient safety incidents through local reporting arrangements?

A13 The Trust uses an incident management system called "Datix", we conducted a search using key search words, and for the years requested we can report no Patient safety incidents regarding missed or delayed administration of Parkinson's medication were identified within the search.

Q14 How many Parkinson's patient safety incidents relating to medication were recorded in your Trust in the last reporting period?

A14 As answer 13

Q15 How many complaints has the Trust received about missed or delayed administration of Parkinson's medication in

a) 2017/2018

b) 2018/2019 to date?

A15 The Trust uses an incident management system called "Datix", we conducted a search using key search words, and for the years requested we can report no complaints regarding missed or delayed administration of Parkinson's medication were identified within the search.

*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.

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

Yours,



Leah Carlisle
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance