



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/221

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018 (received into our office 17<sup>th</sup> July) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding caffeine overdose.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 What is the number of under 16s who have been admitted in each of the past five years, broken down by year for suspected overdose from high energy drinks/accidental caffeine overdose from high energy drinks?**

**A1** The Trust does not record the reason for admission, therefore we are unable to say how many patients were admitted due to a caffeine overdose, whether accidental or not.

There have been patients who have had a stay in hospital during the last 5 years who have the diagnosis of caffeine overdose, but this is not necessarily the reason for admission. However, we are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers and have provided this below:

Year	Total
2013-14	Less than 5
2014-15	Less than 5
2015-16	0
2016-17	Less than 5
2017-18	Less than 5

**Q2 Of those can you tell me, by year how many people were admitted by A&E?**

A2 Up to November 2017 the Trust was unable to record diagnoses on AE attendances to the level of detail the request is asking for.

From November 2017 a new AE system was introduced which allows for greater detail of diagnoses to be recorded.

From November 2017 to March 2018 there were no under 16s who attended our AE department due to a caffeine overdose, whether accidental or not.

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](http://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**