



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-584

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

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Email [foi@uhnm.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhnm.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Parkinson's.

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 6 is not held centrally, but may be recorded in individual departmental records which would also require us to extrapolate this information to create a new document. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all individual departmental 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 departmental 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 the questions that 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 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 We are basing this request on a recently published report by Parkinson's UK following an FOI they carried out with NHS Trusts in April 2019.**

<https://www.parkinsons.org.uk/sites/default/files/2019-10/CS3380%20Get%20it%20on%20Time%20Report%20A4%20final%2026.09.2019-compressed%20%281%29.pdf>

**Initially, we would be happy to receive a copy of your Trust's response to the above FOI if you responded.**

A1 UHNM did not part take of this report.

**Q2 Training and staff awareness**

**Q2a. What training is provided/sourced by the board to raise awareness among staff (in particular ward-based staff) about the needs of inpatients with Parkinson's, particularly around timing of medication?**

**Q2b. How many**

- a) staff overall
- b) ward-based staff have undertaken such training during:

- 2017/2018
- 2018/2019 to date?

A2 2018/19 Training has been given to staff on the Neurology ward with further sessions planned. Additional training is to be arranged across the Trust both at the Royal Stoke site and County Hospital

**Q3 Alert system**

**Does the board 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
- b) As an emergency?

A3 An alert system has been discussed but there are issues regarding capacity of the Parkinson's nurse team as to whether it can be successfully implemented. Inpatient referrals are received on a regular basis from all areas of the Trust both at the Royal Stoke and County Hospital sites and patients are seen/ advice given to medical/ nursing staff.

**Q4 Self-administration of medication policies**

**Q4a. Does the board have a policy around self-administration of medication? If a policy does not currently exist, are there any current plans to implement one?**

**Q4b. If a self-administration policy is not implemented, why is this the case?**

**Q4c. 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?

A4 Please see below:  
A. No, but plans are in place to implement  
B. Currently under review  
C. Not applicable

**Q5 Practical resources**

**Q5a. Is the board 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?**

**Q5b. Does the Trust make use of these practical resources?**

A5 Two timing devices have been purchased with a view to piloting these to assist staff in giving Parkinson's patients their medications on time. Our aim is to roll this out Trust wide on both sites.

**Q6 Patient safety incidents**

**Q6a. Are incidents of?**

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

**Q6b. How many Parkinson's patient safety incidents relating to medication were recorded in your board in the last reporting period?**

**Q6c. 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?

A6 Section 12 and 14 exemptions as detailed above

\*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.

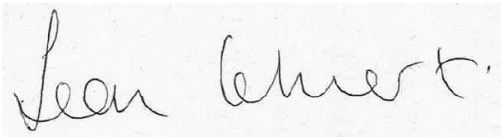
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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



Jean Lehnert  
**Information Governance Manager**