

FOI REF: 23/573

Eastbourne District General Hospital
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East Sussex
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22nd September 2023

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

- 1) **A list of all current and past audits and quality improvement projects started within the urology and general surgical department over the last 10 years.**
 - a) **Please provide date started, date completed, title, objectives, summary, action plan, whether the action plan was completed, and any closing of the loop/repeat.**
- 2) **A list of all current clinical guidelines within the field of urology.**
 - a) **Please provide a summary table of each guideline, when it was first created, last updated, frequency of updates.**
 - b) **Please provide a copy of each guideline in word document or pdf form.**
- 3) **A list of clinical chemistry/electrolyte guidelines (e.g. hyperkalaemia, hypokalaemia etc).**
 - c) **Please provide a summary table of each guideline, when it was first created, last updated, frequency of updates.**
 - d) **Please provide a copy of each guideline in word document or pdf form.**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not centrally record the information requested. To enable the Trust to provide current and past audits would require a manual review of every report, held over multiple systems, to ensure no patient identifiable information was held. To provide all current clinical guidelines from the field of Urology and chemistry would require a manual review of each guideline to establish if names need to be redacted. We estimate this would take between 6 to 8 weeks. We are therefore applying Section 12(1) to your request.

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Section 12(1) of the Act allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of compliance would exceed the 'appropriate limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations). These state that this cost limit is £450 for public authorities which are not part of central government or the armed forces. The costs are calculated at £25 per hour per person regardless of the rate of pay, which means that the limit will be exceeded if the work involved would exceed 18 hours. The Trust estimates that the cost of complying with this request would significantly exceed the above limit.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
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