

FOI REF: 24/023

Eastbourne District General Hospital
Kings Drive
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 2UD

16th February 2024

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) Are A&E clinicians and nurses employed by the East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust trained to recognise the symptoms of sodium nitrite poisoning?**

All patients presenting with acute or chronic poisoning are treated using the ABCDE approach as in any emergencies. After making sure that the primary survey and resuscitation is undertaken, we refer to TOXBASE for all patients with poisoning and follow the guidelines given. This would be the case for Sodium nitrate poisoning and there are very detailed and explicit instructions around how to manage this.

- 2) Are A&E clinicians and nurses employed by the East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust trained to treat patients suffering with sodium nitrite poisoning with the antidote methylthioninium chloride commonly called methylene blue?**

Please see above.

- 3) Does the A&E department at the East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust routinely carry the antidote methylthioninium chloride commonly called methylene blue?**

The Trust routinely carry the antidote methylthioninium chloride in the Trust's pharmacy department.

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.

Cont.../

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 faithfully

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net