

FOI REF: 24/489

11th July 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) **Does your trust use virtual wards for any maternity/obstetrics patients? If no please go to the last question (question 2).**

No, East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not provide this service.

- a) **Is this provided internally (i.e. Trust versus private outsource), If outsourced which provider is responsible for delivering the virtual ward.**

Not applicable.

- b) **How long have you been providing or had provision for this virtual ward (months)?**

Not applicable.

- c) **If yes what obstetric/early pregnancy conditions do you currently use the virtual ward for:**

- **Pre-eclampsia**
- **Preterm prelabour rupture of membranes**
- **Obstetric Cholestasis**
- **Outpatient management of miscarriage**
- **Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy**
- **Hyperemesis gravidarum**
- **Other please specify:**

Not applicable.

Cont.../

d) **Which diagnostic/monitoring tests do you provide as part of this service:**

- **Pulse**
- **Temperature**
- **Blood pressure**
- **Pulse Oximetry**
- **Blood tests (if so what tests and modality i.e. Point of care)**
- **Urinalysis**
- **Symptom questionnaire**
- **Fetal monitoring**
- **IV fluids**
- **IV medications**
- **Oral Medications**

Not applicable.

e) **Which categories of medications are administered :**

- **Antihypertensives**
- **Antiemetics**
- **Analgesia**
- **Other please specify:**
- **None**

Not applicable.

f) **What is the maximum frequency of monitoring provided?**

Not applicable.

g) **On average how many times a day will monitoring occur?**

Not applicable.

h) **Are abnormal results reviewed by the treating team or the virtual ward provider?**

Not applicable.

i) **Is there a time limit of how long patients can stay within the virtual ward e.g. two weeks. If yes how long is the duration?**

Not applicable.

j) **How is the virtual ward funded?**

Not applicable.

2) If you currently do not provide a virtual ward for maternity/obstetrics patients do you have plans to implement them and if so when is this expected to go live?

The Trust does not have any plans to implement a virtual ward for maternity / obstetric patients.

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

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