

FOI REF: 24/842

18th December 2024

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

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. The total number of deaths where nitazenes and fentanyl were identified or suspected from January 1st, 2019 to the current date. Please break down the data by calendar year.**

The Coroner does not give his permission for the Trust to share information in relation to deaths where the death has been reported to the Coroner's Office. Coroner's Offices are not subject to the Freedom of Information Act therefore we are unable to provide you with a response to this part of your request.

- 2. Any data on reported overdoses and hospitalisations where nitazenes and fentanyl were identified or suspected from January 1st, 2019 to the current date. Please break down the data by calendar year.**

Clarification was sought advising that coding code as follows:

Poisoning by other Synthetic Narcotics. This will include all drugs in this category, is this sufficient and confirmation was received as follows:

Yes, this would be sufficient.

Please see the table below for the number of admissions with Poisoning by Synthetic Narcotics:

Year	Number of Admissions
2019	24
2020	34
2021	39
2022	26
2023	23
2024 YTD Nov	28

- 3. Provide the number of cases in which nitazenes and fentanyl were recorded in toxicology reports for patients attending healthcare facilities between January 1st, 2019 to the current date.**

The Coroner does not give his permission for the Trust to share information in relation to deaths where the death has been reported to the Coroner's Office. Coroner's Offices are not subject to the Freedom of Information Act therefore we are unable to provide you with a response to this part of your request.

- 4. Please provide copies of any reports, surveys, or risk assessments on nitazenes conducted by or shared with your health authority during January 1st, 2019 to the current date.**

We are not aware of any reports, surveys or risk assessments on nitazenes being shared with the Trust and would suggest that you contact NHS Sussex who may hold this information, contact details as follows:

Email: sxicb.foi1@nhs.net.

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