

18th May 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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Eastbourne
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BN21 2UD

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

Further to your recent request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000, I now set out our answers to your specific questions, and any clarifications sought and provided, as follows:

I am writing to make a request for information relating to the management of Patient Group Directions (PGDs) within your organisation.

- 1) **Does your organisation currently use Patient Group Directions (PGDs) to authorise the supply or administration of medicines by registered healthcare professionals?**

Yes.

- 2) **Indicate in the table below approximately how many active, approved PGDs your organisation currently holds?**

Number Range	Indicate with a cross
<20	
20-50	X
50-100	
100-300	
>300	

- 3) **If known, how many registered healthcare professionals are currently authorised to work under one or more PGDs within your organisation? Please indicate if this information is not held centrally.**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT) does not hold this information centrally.

- 4) **What system or process does your organisation currently use to manage PGD governance?**

- a) **Paper-based documentation and manual registers.**

These are used on wards and units for individual PGDs.

- b) **Generic document management software (e.g. SharePoint, shared network drives).**

Yes – a knowledge management system (KMS) is used in Pharmacy to record and review PGDs.

- c) **A dedicated PGD management software system — if so, please name the system.**

ESHT does not have a dedicated PGD management software system.

- d) **Other — please describe.**

Not applicable.

- 5) **Please provide the name, job title, and email address of the individual responsible for PGD governance within your organisation. If this is not held centrally, please indicate who would be the most appropriate contact.**

Jane Starr – Medication Safety Officer.

ESHT is unable to provide the contact details of staff as we consider this information to be exempt from release in accordance with section 44 of the Freedom of Information Act (Prohibition on disclosure) and would refer to the Privacy and Electronic Communications EC Directive Regulations 2003 which provide specific rules on electronic communication services, including marketing (by phone, fax, email or text) and keeping communications services secure. We will not provide any information that could result in the transmission of unsolicited communications which may place an unacceptable risk to our email network and could also have a detrimental impact on patient care and treatment.

The contact number for the Trust are accessible on the Trust website <http://www.esht.nhs.uk>.

This is an absolute exemption and there is, therefore, no requirement to consider the public interest.

- 6) **In the last 12 months, have any PGDs within your organisation expired without a completed review and reauthorisation in place?**

Yes.

- a) **If so, approximately how many?**

2.

I trust this information is helpful in its detail or explanation however, if you are dissatisfied with the response, then you have the right to request an internal review. If you wish to seek an internal review, please write to the Freedom of Information Team at esh-tr.foi@nhs.net quoting the above FOI reference number, within 40 working days. Please note the Trust is not obliged to accept a request for an internal review after this time period.

Yours faithfully

Freedom of Information (FOI) Team
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
0300 131 4716
Core Hours of Business: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm