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Request for information Reference 11.12.55

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Mr J Griffin

Email only

2 January 2013

Dear Mr Griffin,

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 30 November 2012 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (Trust). We are dealing with your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested information regarding patients undergoing radiological investigations or procedures involving iodinated contrast media (this would involve the departments of radiology, vascular, MAU and renal). Specifically you asked for:

- 1. Does your institution have specific guidelines/policy for the recognition and management of patients at risk of contrast induced acute kidney injury (CI-AKI) for the following procedures:**
 - a. contrast enhanced CT scans**
 - b. angiogram, angioplasty and stenting**
 - c. endovascular aneurysm repair (EVAR)**

Answer: Although the Trust is looking to formulate such a policy the Trust does not currently have any specific policies or guidelines however it does use guidance documents produced by the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) (Metformin updated guidance for the use in diabetics with renal impairment 2009). This is available on the RCR website. These guidelines are supported internally by the two additional attached policies.

- 2. If available please send the guidelines/policy by email.**

Answer: Please see the answer to question 1.

3. When was this guideline last reviewed and/or revised?

Answer: The guidelines were last reviewed/revised by the RCR in 2009.

4. What strategies does your institution use to manage patients at risk of CI-AKI?

Answer: All patients are encouraged to keep well hydrated after any procedure using IV contrast media and inpatients with borderline renal function have the medical team looking after them to monitor renal function and offer appropriate therapies where required.

5. Do you routinely involve a renal physician in the pre and post procedure management of patients at risk of CI-AKI who are having a contrast enhanced investigation or interventional procedure?

Answer: Out patients do not routinely have their renal function monitored pre or post procedure unless there is a specific reason to do so. Renal physicians are involved only on a case by case basis, usually via the consultant radiologist. Only inpatients have routine renal function tests carried out pre procedure, and only as part of the routine inpatient management of their condition post procedure or if renal impairment is suspect.

6. Do patients at risk of CI-AKI routinely have post procedure serum urea, creatinine, eGFR and electrolytes measured? If so, at what time post procedure does this happen?

Answer: If the patient is at risk of CI-AKI they would have the post procedure serum urea. This would occur once the patient is back on the ward.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust website.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are dissatisfied with how your request has been handled or would like to formally appeal against our response, you complain in writing to:

The Chief Executive
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington, DL3 6HX

If, after we have addressed your complaint, you remain dissatisfied with how the trust has responded you are entitled to appeal to the Information Commissioner (Tel: 0303 123 1113). Further details can be found at www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely



Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer