



**West Hertfordshire
Hospitals**
NHS Trust

Conor Long

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FOI ref: 5202

Trust Offices

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14 October 2020

Dear Mr Long

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 1 October 2020, requesting the information copied below.

Please provide answers to the following requests:

1. Confirm or deny whether disruption to supply of ICU medicines is included as a risk on the Trust's risk register
Response: No.
2. Confirm or deny whether disruption to supply of noradrenaline is included as a risk on the Trust's risk register
Response: No.
3. With regards to the above 2 questions:
 - a. When were the risks put on the register
 - b. When are they to be reviewed
 - c. What significance status have they been given. e.g. use of a RAG-rating system
Response: N/A.
4. Provide the number of safety incidents recorded at your Trust which relate to the preparation and /or the manipulation/mixing of medicines in critical care areas between 1 January 2019 and 1 September 2020
Response: One.
5. Provide the number of safety incidents recorded at your Trust which relate to administration, preparation, and/or the manipulation/mixing of noradrenaline at the bedside between 1 January 2019 and 1 September 2020. Provide details of the reported cases.
Response: None.
6. Confirm or deny if your Trust has taken action to adhere to the guidance published by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, titled Safe and Secure Handling of Medicines (December 2018), specifically with regards to appendix C and, "as outlined in the core guidance, manipulation of medicines in clinical areas is minimised and medicines are presented as

prefilled syringes or other 'ready-to-administer' preparations wherever possible..." <https://www.rpharms.com/recognition/setting-professional-standards/safe-and-secure-handling-of-medicines/professional-guidance-on-the-safe-and-secure-handling-of-medicines>.

Response: Confirm.

7. Confirm or deny if your Trust subscribes to and follows the guidance provided on IV administration of medication by the MEDUSA injectable medicines guide.

Response: Confirm.

8. Supply evidence of the process the Trust has taken to address the principles outlined in the guidance above, specifically with regards to "the manipulation of medicines in clinical areas is minimised and medicines are presented as prefilled syringes or other 'ready-to-administer' preparations"

Response: The trust-wide annual audit of 'High Risk Injectable Medicines (NPSA 20)'.

9. Confirm or deny whether your Trust is stockpiling ready-to-use or ready-to-administer noradrenaline for the likely increased demand over the next 6 months (stockpiling is defined as retaining medicines with a shelf-life of at least 12 months)

Response: The Trust does not stockpile ready-to use/ready-to-administer noradrenaline.

The Trust operates an internal complaints procedure in relation to Freedom of Information. If you are not satisfied with this response, you may request an internal review, please email: westherts.foi@nhs.net stating with which parts of the response you are not satisfied.

If you remain dissatisfied, you have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner for a determination on whether the Trust has complied with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act. The Information Commissioner's contact details are: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Manager