



Kent and Medway

NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust

Information Governance & Records Management Department

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Dear [REDACTED]

Request for Information

I write further to your request FOI ID 33999 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding:-

GP Referrals due to benzodiazepine usage

Your request is set out below:

Q.1. Number of self-referrals to GPs for benzodiazepine usage 2018-22, broken down by year (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022): 1.B. Per gender 1.C. Per ethnicity

All information requested is not routinely collected outside normal record keeping of a clinical record. The requested information is not held centrally and is contained within the individual clinical records and archive systems which can not be extracted as a stand-alone piece of data. In order to extract the requested information and collate the results would require a manual exercise to identify and review clinical records and would exceed the appropriate time limits, as per the Freedom of Information Act 2000 section 12(1) which does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

Q.2. Number of hospitalisations of those aged 15-30 years old for issues related to benzodiazepine usage 2018-2022, broken down by year (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022): 2.B. Per gender 2.C. Per ethnicity

All information requested is not routinely collected outside normal record keeping of a clinical record. The requested information is not held centrally and is contained within the individual clinical records and archive systems which can not be extracted as a stand-alone piece of data. In order to extract the requested information and collate the results would require a manual exercise to identify and review clinical records and would exceed the appropriate time limits, as per the Freedom of Information Act 2000 section 12(1) which does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

Q.3. Number of hospital admissions aged 15-30 years old with benzodiazepine related mental disorders/behavioural disorders 2018-2022, broken down by year (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022): 3.B. Per gender 3.C. Per ethnicity

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Trust Chair – Dr Jackie Craissati
Chief Executive – Helen Greatorex

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Q.4. Number of people aged 15-30 years old visiting GP seeking withdrawal treatment for benzodiazepines 2018-2022, broken down by year (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022): 4.B. Per gender 4.C. Per ethnicity

All information requested is not routinely collected outside normal record keeping of a clinical record. The requested information is not held centrally and is contained within the individual clinical records and archive systems which can not be extracted as a stand-alone piece of data. In order to extract the requested information and collate the results would require a manual exercise to identify and review clinical records and would exceed the appropriate time limits, as per the Freedom of Information Act 2000 section 12(1) which does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

Q.5. Number of people aged 15-30 years old referred to by a GP for mental health services for support relating to benzodiazepines use 2018-2022, broken down by year (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022): 5.B. Per gender 5.C. Per ethnicity

All information requested is not routinely collected outside normal record keeping of a clinical record. The requested information is not held centrally and is contained within the individual clinical records and archive systems which can not be extracted as a stand-alone piece of data. In order to extract the requested information and collate the results would require a manual exercise to identify and review clinical records and would exceed the appropriate time limits, as per the Freedom of Information Act 2000 section 12(1) which does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

I confirm that the information above completes your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am also pleased to confirm that no charge will be made for this request.

If you have any questions or concerns or are unhappy with the response provided or the service you have received you can write to the Head of Information Governance at the address on top of this letter. If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

Yours Sincerely

On Behalf of
The Information Governance Department