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Request for Information Reference: 11.18.37

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Email only

7 December 2018

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 23 November 2018 in relation to the 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 unlicensed medicines. Specifically you requested information as follows:

- 1. Does your Trust have a policy on the use of unlicensed medicines? Please Answer Yes or No. If yes, please provide a copy of the policy and all other relevant documentation**

Answer: Yes, please see attached.

- 2. Does your Trust have a policy or protocol on obtaining informed consent from patients when an unlicensed medicine is used? Please answer Yes or No. If yes, please provide copies of all relevant documentation including copies of template informed consent materials used to consent patients where an unlicensed medicine is to be administered.**

Answer: Yes (under consent policy). Please see attached. Not a specific policy – this would be produced prior to implementation.

- 3. Please state which Board level job role(s) is (are) responsible for patient safety and consenting.**

Answer: Medical Director.

- 4. Does your Trust have, or intend to introduce, a policy that makes compounded bevacizumab routinely available to treat wet age-related macular degeneration? If yes please supply a copy of your policy.**

Answer: Intention to introduce a policy.

- 5. Does your Trust currently have a wholly NHS owned pharmacy with an aseptic unit for compounding/aliquotting medicines? Please answer Yes or NO. If yes, is this NHS pharmacy the same legal entity as that of your hospital Trust?**

Answer: Yes, under section 10 exemption of Medicines Act.

If yes, is this NHS pharmacy the same legal entity as that of your hospital Trust?

Answer: Yes, part of Trust.

- 6. Does your Trust currently host on its premises a privately owned pharmacy with an aseptic unit for compounding/aliquotting medicines? Please answer Yes or NO. If yes, please provide details of the third party provider of your pharmacy services.**

Answer: No.

- 7. Over the past two years has your Trust, on more than one occasion, used compounded Avastin (bevacizumab) for ophthalmic use? Please answer Yes or No.**

Answer: Yes.

If you answered yes to Q5 or Q6:

- 8. Is the pharmacy referred to above in Q5 or Q 6 currently providing, or potentially able to provide, compounded Avastin (bevacizumab) for ophthalmic use? Please answer Yes or No**

Answer: Yes.

- 9. Does the pharmacy referred to above in Q5 or Q6 currently hold an MHRA license for the manufacture of specials? Please answer Yes or No**

Answer: No.

If you answered yes to Q5 or Q6 but no to Q9:

10. When was the pharmacy referred to above in answer to Q5 or Q6 last inspected by the CQC?

Answer: Not inspected by the CQC.

If you answered no to questions Q5 or Q6 above, but yes to question Q7:

11. Please provide information regarding from whom your Trust has or obtained/purchased compounded Avastin (bevacizumab). If you cannot provide the name of any commercial supplier, please provide as much information as possible.

Answer: Wirral hospitals (not for wAMD that meets NICE criteria)

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 unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review by writing to:

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

If, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Website: www.ico.gov.uk.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer