

Executive Corridor
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX
Switchboard Tel: 01325 38 0100
Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 11.19.56

Direct line: 01325 743700
Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

30 December 2019

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 28 November 2019 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 the In-patient Vitamin K Antagonists (VKA) dosing/VTE risk assessment practices. Specifically you requested information as follows:

Freedom of Information Request

1. Does your Trust have an Anticoagulant Service for:

a) In-patients and out-patients, yes or no?

Answer: Yes.

b) In-patients only, yes or no?

Answer: No.

c) Outpatient only, yes or no?

Answer: No.

2. How many inpatient beds does your Trust have (at each site if more than 1 site)?

Answer:

Darlington Memorial Hospital (DMH): 352

University Hospital of North Durham (UHND): 421

Bishop Auckland Hospital (BAH): 102

Shotley Bridge Hospital (SBH): 10

Chester Le Street Hospital (CLSH): 16

Richardson Hospital: 16

Sedgefield Hospital: 16

Weardale Hospital: 16

Total number of inpatient beds within the Trust is: 949

a) How many sites do you inpatient dose (if applicable)?

Answer: All 8 sites.

3. Who doses VKA for your inpatient population?

a) Doctors?

Answer: Yes.

b) Advanced nurse practitioners?

Answer: No.

c) Biomedical Scientists?

Answer: No.

d) Clinical Nurse Specialists – if so are they nurse prescribers?

Answer: Yes, they are IPs.

e) Pharmacists - If so are they prescribers?

Answer: Yes and yes.

f) Other – free text box?

Answer: N/A.

4. How many individuals who are not doctors perform this role in the groups specified above?

Answer: All pharmacists that have a patient facing role.

5. If you dose warfarin for out-patients, how many warfarin patients do you currently dose?

Answer: We are currently responsible for 1,299 patients throughout the county within the outpatients/ community setting.

a. Which dosing software do you use, free text?

Answer: The Trust uses the 4SDAWn system.

6. Does your Trust run nurse led Anticoagulation clinics, yes or no?

Answer: Yes, the Trust runs clinics at DMH, BAH, UHND and the Richardson Hospital (RH) (we have a digital system with self-testers as numbers are very low). The Trust also runs clinics at the following GP surgeries; Middleton in Teesdale, Stanhope, Wolsingham, Willington Health Centre and Whinfield Surgery.

7. If there are no nurse led clinics, who is responsible for management of patients taking VKA within your Trust?

Answer: We have nurse led clinics Monday to Friday 8am-5pm (excluding Bank holidays) at various sites, patients may have to travel to a specific site. Any issues that occur out of these times will be managed via GP /rapid access or A & E as these would be urgent cases. All routine patient work is completed or a process is in place prior to the team leaving at 5pm.

8. Who completes your VTE Risk assessments:

a. Ward doctors?

Answer: Yes.

b. Nurses?

Answer: Yes (midwives)

c. Pharmacists ?

Answer: No.

d. ANP?

e. Other - Please specify?

Answer: N/A.

9. What is your current VTE Risk assessment compliance rate?

Answer: The current VTE risk assessment compliance is 95.13% (September 2019).

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



County Durham
and Darlington
NHS Foundation Trust

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