

Ref: FOI/2025/10505

Date Received: 7th February 2025

Response Due: 7th March 2025

Date: 6th March 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 7th February 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do not hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

Please note I am asking about sodium nitrite, not sodium nitrate.

For the past five years, up to and including 7 February 2025, I'd like to know the following:

1. How many cases of sodium nitrite poisoning were there? Please break this down into cases of a) intentional poisoning (eg suicide) and b) unintentional poisoning.

The Trust does have a specific code for Sodium Nitrite poisoning, therefore we are unable to provide this data as it is not recorded centrally, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

a. Of the cases of sodium nitrite poisoning, how many of them were administered Methylene Blue?

N/A

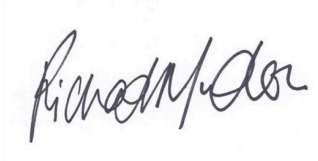
2. How many deaths were there where sodium nitrite poisoning was listed as the, or a, cause of death? Please break this down into how many deaths were caused by a) intentional poisoning (eg suicide) and b) unintentional poisoning.

The Trust is unable to provide this data as it is not recorded centrally, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

a. Of the deaths caused by sodium nitrite poisoning, how many of them were administered Methylene Blue?
N/A

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Mundon', is enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Richard Mundon
Deputy Chief Executive

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

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

Helpline number: 0303 123 111