

# Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

## Information Governance Department

Suite 9  
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WN1 1XX

Email: [foi@wwl.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@wwl.nhs.uk)  
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Ref: FOI/2024/9696

Date Received: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Response Due: 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

With reference to your request for information received on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

**1. Does your organisation provide substance misuse services?**

WWL has specialist nurses working in a capacity as drug and alcohol nurses but doesn't provide a formal substance misuse service. They deal with advice and management of patients admitted who are already managed by the community teams or patients admitted requiring acute management of substance misuse symptoms. They enable referral to a substance misuse service at discharge where appropriate. The local council facilitates drug and alcohol support in the community via the registered charity Withyou.

**2. Does your organisation have a policy on prescribing Take-home Naloxone for patients prescribed or taking opiates or opiate substitutes?**

3. No. WWL would not usually supply opiates or opiate substitutes at discharge and doesn't have a policy on prescribing take-home naloxone. Where in exceptional circumstances a bridging supply is needed until the community service can resume / be started then daily doses have been provided from the pharmacy departments at WWL with the affected individual coming back to receive each day from the acute trust.

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 'Masterman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gary Masterman  
Associate Director of Pharmacy (Governance Assurance)

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