

# Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Ref: FOI/2024/9812

Date Received: 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024

Response Due: 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 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. **How many times 'microdosing' psychedelic substances was included as a reason for hospital admissions in your trust in 2022, 2023 and 2024 to date.**

The Trust does not have any codes for microdosing therefore we are unable to answer this question.

2. **How many times the consumption of psychedelic substances in any quantity was included as a reason for hospital admissions in your trust in 2022, 2023 and 2024 to date.**

Such substances include but are not limited to:

- Magic Mushrooms (e.g. Psilocybin)
- MDMA
- LSD
- DMT
- Ayahuasca (e.g. Harmaline)
- Salvia

**Please break this down by drug, year and patient age.**

Please see attached.

The Trust does not have a specific code for psychedelic substances. We also do not have a code for specific drugs. Magic Mushrooms, LSD, DMT. Ayahuasca and Salvia are classed as hallucinogens

according to our coding and are coded according to acute intoxication, harmful use and dependence syndrome. MDMA is classed as an other stimulant. However, this code classifies all psychoactive substances that trail as other stimulants and is not limited to MDMA. Therefore, the breakdown of the drug is unavailable. All coding mentioned above has been included in the totals.

The Trust has a policy of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

To disclose this information would:

- a) Contravene the Data Protection Act principles in that it would amount to unfair and possibly unlawful processing, as there was a legitimate expectation by the third parties that this information would remain confidential, and
- b) Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

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,



Paritosh Desai  
Divisional Director of Operations & Performance (Medicine)

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