

Information Governance

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Our reference: FOI DA3477a

I am responding to your request for information received 10 November 2020. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Keshia Harvey
Information Governance Manager

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision. If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Tel: 0303 123 1113
Web: www.ico.org.uk

Please note that the data supplied is not allowed to be re-used and/or published without the explicit consent of East London NHS Foundation Trust. Please contact the signatory to request permission if this is your intention

Request:

Thank you for responding to my FoI request regarding Electroconvulsive Therapy.

I note that your following three responses use exactly the same words as the responses of six other Trusts.

[Which professions did the SOAD consult for patients who did not consent?]

‘SOADs would be obliged to speak to a doctor, nurse and another professional involved in the care of the patient. This may include OTs, psychologists and other therapists.’

[What measures of clinical outcome were used for patients who received ECT?]

‘All patients having ECT have baseline measures of mood. rated with valid rating scales such as the MADRS. The CGI is also used.’

[What measures of adverse effects for patients who received ECT were used, and what were the results?]

‘Cognitive assessments are done before, during and after treatment.’

I therefore have some follow up questions:

Question 1. Were the statements copied? Yes/No

Question 2. If Yes, from which document were they copied?

Question 3. Did your Trust receive any guidance or instruction from outside the Trust that led to the use of these three statements? Yes/No

**Question 4. If Yes,
(a) from which person or organisation did you receive guidance/instruction?**

(b) did you seek the guidance/instruction or did the organisation providing it send it to you unsolicited?

Answer: The information was identified on a national private forum which is part of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Original Request:

Question 1. Please send us a copy of the information leaflet given to patients about safety and efficacy of ECT being used on June 1 2020.

Answer: The Trust's ECT leaflet can be found on our website:

https://www.elft.nhs.uk/uploads/files/1/Policies%20and%20Procedures/FOI/2019/July/ECT_Leaflet.pdf

**Question 2. How many patients in total received ECT in 2019?
1. How many of these were female?
2. How many of these were over 60?
3. How many of these were under 18?**

Answer: To answer your questions we would need to manually develop scripts to answer each question. Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.

Question 3. How many patients received ECT without receiving a N.I.C.E. recommended psychological therapy?

Clarification No, this is not dependent on diagnosis.

Answer: The Trust does not record this information in a specific field on our clinical system. To answer your questions we would need to manually develop scripts to answer each question. Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.

Question 4. What measures of clinical outcome were used for patients who received ECT and what were the results?

Answer: All patients having ECT have baseline measures of mood, rated with valid rating scales such as the MADRS. The CGI is also used. Cognitive assessments are done before, during and after treatment.

Question 5. What measures of adverse effects for patients who received ECT were used, and what were the results?

Answer: The Trust does not record this information in a specific field on our clinical system. To answer your questions we would need to manually develop scripts to answer each question. Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.

Question 6. How many patients were given ECT without consent?

Clarification Both those who could not consent and those who did not consent.

Answer: The Trust does not record this information in a specific field on our clinical system. To answer your questions we would need to manually review each patient that received ECT in 2019 and before each ECT session to answer each question. Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.

Question 7. Which professions did the SOAD consult for patients who did not consent?

Answer: SOADs would be obliged to speak to a doctor, nurse and another professional involved in the care of the patient. This may include OTs, psychologists and other therapists.

In order to establish each profession that was consulted for each patient, staff would need to review each patient record to answer each question. Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.