



East London
NHS Foundation Trust
Information Governance
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31 May 2024

Our reference: FOI DA5361

I am responding to your request for information received 29 April 2024. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your request. 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,

Information Rights Coordinator

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

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Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request:

Question 1: Does the trust have a digital medicines strategy?

Answer: No, the Trust does not have a digital medicines strategy.

Question 2: If so, how much money is the trust investing in the digital medicines and automation process?

Answer: Not applicable.

Question 3: a. Does the trust still use paper based drug charts in any areas?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 3 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 21(1) of the FOI Act states:

(1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.

The information requested is accessible here:

Question 1

<https://www.elft.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2023-07/ANON%20Response%20%20-%20FOI%20DA4753.pdf>

b. In all areas, how are they mitigating risk against missing and duplicate paper drug charts?

Answer: All prescribed medication is recorded on EPR - Electronic Patient Record - system. The information recorded on the EPR system will be used to rewrite paper charts if they are misplaced.

If the original paper chart is found then this will be 'crossed through' and an indication made that the chart has been superseded by a subsequent chart.

Question 4: How do you mitigate against the risk of running a paper based chart system and electronic system at the same time if applicable?

Answer: Teams that are using paper-based charts, are separate from teams using Electronic Prescribing and Medication Administration (EMPA). That being the case, teams are either operating electronic or paper-based systems, not both concurrently.



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