



**East London**

**NHS Foundation Trust  
Information Governance**

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2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025

**Our reference: FOI DA5943**

I am responding to your request for information received 17 March 2025. 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.

When an organisation receives a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, it is allowed under the Act to apply a blanket exemption to this where it has concluded that providing a response would take in excess of eighteen hours.

When the cost of compliance and extracting information would exceed eighteen hours, a cost limit of £450 can be applied. This is explained in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and 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 eighteen hours work.

Having reviewed your request, the Trust has noted that it would not be able to provide all the information requested within the eighteen hours specified in the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, in this instance and to assist you, we have provided a partial response to your request as per below.

In order to assist you with your request, I have advised below the timing each question would take to help you to refine your request. If you wish to refine your request to comply with the eighteen hour time limit, please do get in touch.

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,

FOI Team



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**Chief Executive Officer:** Lorraine Sunduza  
**Chair:** Eileen Taylor

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](http://www.ico.org.uk)

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**Request:** I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the administration of injections to patients without their consent within the Trust. Specifically, I request the following information for the period 1 January 2020 – 15 March 2025:

**Question 1:** The total number of times patients were administered injections without their consent and the date of any such cases.

**Answer:** The Trust has reviewed question 1 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—  
(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and  
(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not have a way to capture retrospectively whether injections were given with or without consent, however these injections are all given under the umbrella of rapid tranquilisation.

Please see Appendix 1 attached for the dates of cases where rapid tranquilisation was used and the number of times administered.

**Question 2:** A breakdown of the medications administered (e.g., antipsychotics, sedatives) in these cases.

**Answer:** Please see Appendix 2 attached.

**Question 3:** The legal authority under which these injections were administered.

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

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

*Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit*

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, it would be necessary to review each of the 3402 cases from Appendix 2 to determine what has been given under the Mental Health Act (MHA), what has been given under the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) and what has been done unlawfully. It is estimated that it would take over 18 hours to collate this information.

Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with this particular part of 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.

To advise and assist, our Trust policy on Consent to Treatment clearly lays out responsibilities when it comes to authority to treat. It is the responsibility of the professional in charge of the particular treatment to establish the valid authority to treat (consent, MHA or MCA), and for the professional administering the treatment to be satisfied that such authority exists. If



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consent is not forthcoming, as per Trust policy, treatment will only be administered under the authority of the MHA or of the MCA.

**Question 4: The number of incidents where rapid tranquilization was used and the date of any such cases.**

Answer: Please see attached Appendix 1.

**Question 5: Any policy documents or guidelines used by the Trust regarding the administration of injections without consent.**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 5 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:

- Rapid Tranquilisation Policy:  
<https://www.elft.nhs.uk/intranet/documents/rapid-tranquilisation-policy-all-ages-90>
- Medicines Policy:  
<https://www.elft.nhs.uk/intranet/teams-support-me/governance-and-risk-management/policy-management/trust-policies>



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