



**East London**  
NHS Foundation Trust  
**Information Governance**  
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24 October 2025

**Our reference: FOI DA6277**

I am responding to your request for information received 29 September 2025. 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](http://www.ico.org.uk)

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We promise to work together creatively to: learn 'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality of life and continuously improve our services.  
**We care . We respect . We are inclusive**

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

**Request:** Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request information regarding the administration of Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) within your Trust for the calendar year 2024.

**Question 1:** How many patients in total received ECT in 2024?

Answer: 39 patients received ECT in 2024.

**Question 2:** How many of these were female?

Answer: 23 patients were female.

**Question 3:** How many of these were over 60?

Answer: 11 patients were over 60 years of age.

**Question 4:** How many of these were under 18?

Answer: Zero patients were under 18 years of age.

**Question 5:** How many were referred for psychological assessment before prescribing ECT?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 5 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 40 for the FOI Act states:

*(2) This exemption covers the personal data of third parties (anyone other than the requester) where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the UK GDPR.*

In order to provide the information requested, it would be necessary to access patient records as the information is not held in a searchable format. There is no legal basis to access patient records for the purposes of responding to a Freedom of Information request. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

**Question 6:** How many people received psychology therapy before being prescribed ECT?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 6 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 40 for the FOI Act states:

*(2) This exemption covers the personal data of third parties (anyone other than the requester) where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the UK GDPR.*

In order to provide the information requested, it would be necessary to access patient records as the information is not held in a searchable format. There is no legal basis to access patient records for the purposes of responding to a Freedom of Information request. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

**Question 7:** What measures of clinical outcome were used for patients who received ECT and what were the results?

Answer: The ECT service has a protocol that patients have to be assessed by their consultant on the ward after every two sessions of ECT. This is usually



documented in the patient's clinical notes. This is also reflected in the ECT prescription and treatment form. The form contains a space for Clinical Global Impression score (CGI) and any non-cognitive side effects. A baseline CGI is done on the ward as part of the referral for ECT.

**Question 8: What measures of adverse effects for patients who received ECT were used, and what were the results?**

The ECT team has a protocol that patients have to be assessed by their consultant on the ward after every two sessions of ECT. This is usually documented in the patient's clinical notes. This is also reflected in the ECT prescription and treatment form. The form contains a space for Clinical Global Impression score (CGI) and any non-cognitive side effects. A baseline CGI is done on the ward as part of the referral for ECT.

**Question 9: Which professions did the SOAD consult for patients who did not consent?**

Answer: Psychiatrists.



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