

May 2011

1) How many 'drug errors' have been made by staff in the past 12 months (April 2010 - April 2011) and how many were made in the previous 12 months (April 2009 - April 2010)?

Please see below the number of reported “errors” which of course, is not the same as agreeing that errors were made in each incident that has been entered into our incident reporting system.

	2009-2010	2010-2011
Total drug errors	604	564

2) For each year (2010/11 and 2009/10), how many drug errors were classed as 'adverse events' and how many as 'near misses.'

We have extracted from our DATIX incident reporting system ‘adverse events’ information (as detailed below) by tallying the number of incidents recorded as being potentially or actually associated with ill health, injury or death.

Similarly, as detailed below, we have extracted ‘near miss’ information by grouping incidents reported as “near miss by intervention”, “near miss” and “non-injurious”.

It should be noted that following investigation the original classification/ categorisation of an incident may change

Category	2009-2010	2010-2011
Total Adverse Incidents	61	37
Total Near Misses	408	415

3) For each year, what drugs were involved and how many errors were made with each type of drug?

We do not hold this information in the format you have requested. It would need to be extracted by undertaking a key word search for all the types of drugs used which would take in excess of 2½ days.

With reference to section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act where the associated cost of locating, retrieving, and extracting the requested information is estimated to exceed the upper fee limit of £450 set for NHS Trusts under the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2007 then we are sorry but will not be responding to this part of your request.

This fee limit represents the cost of one person spending 2½ working days at a rate of £25 per hour.

However, we have provided below information in the categories collected which most closely fit with your information request which we hope will be helpful.

Drug Category	2009-2010	2010-2011
Antibiotics injection	38	45
Antibiotics oral	20	15
Controlled Drug injection	33	26
Controlled Drug oral	61	46
Chemo-therapy injection	10	16
Chemo-therapy oral	14	9
Heparin/Enoxaparin	20	18
Insulin	46	31
Intra Venous fluids	22	26
Multiple drugs	15	21
Other injections	42	55
Other oral medications	80	91
Self administration error	3	5
'To Take Away' (TTAs) and discharge	75	75
Warfarin	54	29
Total	604	564

4) For each year, how many patients suffered 'low harm', 'moderate harm' or 'severe harm' and how many were adults and how many children?

Severity	2009-2010	2010-2011
High	<5	<5
Moderate	43	51
Low	560	512
Total	604	564

We are unable to provide data detailing how many patients were adults and how many were children, for the same cost reasons as detailed above, as this information is not classified separately on our incident recording system.

We are also unable to provide details that may identify any person. Hence our response < 5 but we can confirm that there were no deaths and no significant harm /injury cases.

5) For each year, how many patients died due to drug errors and how many of these were adults and how many children?

For 2009/10 and 2010/11 no deaths have been reported as being due to drug errors.