



I can confirm that the Trust may hold (as defined in the Act) the information you requested in respect of the number of patients for whom particular drugs were dispensed, but this information is not readily retrievable.

We have an electronic prescribing system, but it records drug usage, rather than the number of specific patients each drug was dispensed to. Therefore, it would require manual access to patients' records for us to be able to respond with the specific data requested.

We estimate that it would take more than 18 hours to locate, retrieve and extract all the information you have requested. The associated cost would therefore exceed the £450 fee limit for NHS trusts based on one person spending 2½ working days at a rate of £25 per hour determining whether the Trust holds the information sought and then locating, retrieving and extracting that information as set out under Freedom of Information & Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2007.

In the circumstances, having regard to section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, and taking account of the associated costs of dealing further with your request, the Trust is not obliged to respond. We are sorry that on this occasion we will not be responding to your request more fully, but hope you find the data we can provide useful.