

Trust Headquarters  
Russells Hall Hospital  
Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY1 2HQ

**Ref:** FOI-062025-0001684

**Date:** 24.6.25

**Address / Email:**

Dear

**Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am looking into neonatal and paediatric critical care pharmacy staffing levels.

Please could you share:

For each centre within your trust that provides neonatal care, please answer:

1a) How many funded neonatal intensive care unit (ICU), neonatal high dependency unit (HDU) and special care baby unit (SCBU) cots are there?

- **3 x ITU, 2 x HDU, 13 x SCBU, 4 x TC**

b. Does the centre have access to a senior pharmacist practising in neonatology at Agenda for Change (AFC) Band 8a or equivalent as a minimum? - **Yes**

c. Does the centre have access to a senior pharmacist with experience in the provision of parenteral nutrition, where necessary? - **Yes**

d. Do pharmacists working in neonatal care attend daily multidisciplinary ward rounds? - **Yes**

e. How many pharmacists (whole time equivalent – WTE ) working in neonatal care are active independent prescribers? - **0.3WTE**

f. Does the centre have access to medicines via the hospital dispensary 7 days a week, with regular stock top ups in accordance with demand, but no less than once a week? - **Yes**

g. Does the centre have 5 day access to an aseptic and CIVA service where this is needed to provide bespoke parenteral nutrition or where there is substantial use of high risk intravenous medications? **No**

h. Does the centre provide a five day or seven day neonatal service? If this varies for different beds, please answer the below separately for each service. - **5 day**

i. How many clinical pharmacists work in neonatal care (whole time equivalent), and at what AfC band? - **0.3WTE AfC band 8a**

j. How many ward-based pharmacy technicians work in the neonatal care (whole time equivalent)? - **Zero**

2a. Does your trust have a paediatric critical care unit? - **No**

For each paediatric critical care unit within your trust, please answer: **Not applicable**

b. How many funded paediatric level 2 and level 3 critical care beds are in the unit?

c. Does the unit have access to a senior pharmacist practising in paediatric critical care, funded at Agenda for Change (AFC) Band 8a or equivalent as a minimum?

d. Do pharmacists working in paediatric critical care attend daily multidisciplinary ward rounds?

e. How many pharmacists (whole time equivalent) in the unit are active independent prescribers?

- f. Does the unit have access to medicines via the hospital dispensary 7 days a week, with regular stock top ups in accordance with demand, but no less than once a week?
- g. Does the unit provide a five day or seven day service? If this varies for different beds, please answer the below separately for each service.
- h. How many clinical pharmacists work in paediatric critical care (whole time equivalent), and at what AfC band?
- i. How many ward-based pharmacy technicians work in the unit (whole time equivalent)?

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager  
Trust Headquarters  
Russell's Hall Hospital  
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DY1 2HQ  
Email: [dgft.dpo@nhs.net](mailto:dgft.dpo@nhs.net)

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Tel: 0303 123 1113  
[www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team**  
**The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust**