

Trust Headquarters
 Russell's Hall Hospital
 Dudley
 West Midlands
 DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-022024-000613

Date: 05/03/2024

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

Request

1. A copy of the current SOPs that detail the guidelines and processes for Physician Associates when prescribing medication.
2. Any training materials provided to Physician Associates related to prescribing practices.
3. Details of any incident reports filed in the last two years that relate to the prescribing practices of Physician Associates, including outcomes and any subsequent changes made to policies or procedures.
4. Information on the supervision and appraisal processes for Physician Associates with regard to their prescribing practices.

Response

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| 1. A copy of the current SOPs that detail the guidelines and processes for Physician Associates when prescribing medication. | Physicians' associates are not registered workforce and not eligible to apply for independent prescribing qualification. Trust Medicines Management Policy does not permit PA prescribing |
| 2. Any training materials provided to Physician Associates related to prescribing practices. | N/A |
| 3. Details of any incident reports filed in the last two years that relate to the prescribing practices of Physician Associates, including outcomes and any subsequent changes made to policies or procedures. | As per NHS Digital rules the Trust does not publish numbers lower than 5 as this could lead to the identification of the persons involved and cause distress to Families or Friends. The number of incident reports over the years requested is less than 5, so Exemption Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act is applied. |
| 4. Information on the supervision and appraisal processes for Physician Associates with regard to their prescribing practices. | PAs are not prescribers so it wouldn't be covered in their appraisal |

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
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ
Email: 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

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

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust