

Date: 17/11/2016

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/013111 – Vital packs and clinical observations

Are there any plans to implement vital packs at the trust - No, Trust looking at alternative electronic systems as part of its EPR procurement which is currently underway

If so what evidence is this based on and who will be in charge of this process - EPR implementation board who have clinical attendance will oversee the successful implementation of the modules within the EPR one of which will be on clinical observations.

If no, why are you against this - The Trust is out to procurement for an EPR system that has integral clinical systems one of which is clinical observations

How do you measure quality assurance regarding clinical observations on the wards? By this I mean how do you measure that observations are being done competently, correctly, that staff are recording accurately and adding up scores on the MEWS chart correctly? If audits, which audits and who does these, how often etc?

Observations taken by registered nurses or Clinical Support workers who have undertaken and completed competencies. Monthly audits undertaken by Matrons. Quarterly audits undertaken by the Resuscitation team. All results discussed at Quality and Safety Meetings and deteriorating patient meetings. Sepsis audit also helps in maintaining observational standards in practice. We also undertake spot checks on documentation as part of our regular quality and safety (MDT) reviews of clinical areas these take place between once and twice a month.