

Date: 19/01/2017

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/013168 – Chemical contamination

I am making this request under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), and anticipate your reply within the statutory 30 day period.

- Does your Trust conduct regular environmental monitoring, risk assessment and/or staff surveillance within cancer day units to detect possible chemical contamination from hazardous drugs being administered? E.g. Surface contamination wipe tests.
- If so, what assessments/tests are conducted and how often are they carried out?

Staff Surveillance – The Cytotoxic Drugs Health & Safety Guideline has recently been updated to reflect the introduction of Closed System Transfer Device and is pending submission to the Trust's policy group. All personnel who could potentially be exposed to cytotoxic drugs or waste undergo specialist training and annual competency assessment to ensure that safe practice is being maintained in accordance with local and national guidelines.

Environmental monitoring – An action is in place to implement a "lock & go" system within the cancer and chemo unit from April 2017. A pre and post swab process will be undertaken as part of this, as will an on-going monitoring process.