

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

Ref: FOI-012024-000582

Date: 24/07/2024

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

Request

We request the following information:

- 1) Are A&E clinicians and nurses employed by The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust trained to recognise the symptoms of sodium nitrite poisoning?**
- 2) Are A&E clinicians and nurses employed by The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust trained to treat patients suffering with sodium nitrite poisoning with the antidote methylthionine chloride commonly called methylene blue?**
- 3) Does the A&E department at The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust routinely carry the antidote methylthionine chloride commonly called methylene blue?**

Response

<p>1) Are A&E clinicians and nurses employed by The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust trained to recognise the symptoms of sodium nitrite poisoning?</p>	<p>The diagnosis and management of sodium nitrite poisoning is part of the emergency medicine curriculum as set out by the Royal College of Emergency Medicine. Our emergency department uses this curriculum as a basis for its educational programme. The programme consists of a regular teaching programme, educational newsletters and weekly interactive Q&A sessions via social media and ad hoc teaching whilst seeing patients.</p>
<p>2) Are A&E clinicians and nurses employed by The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust trained to treat patients suffering with sodium nitrite poisoning with the antidote methylthionine chloride commonly called methylene blue?</p>	<p>Our Emergency Department is capable in managing cases of all poisoning and overdoses of medications including sodium nitrite poisoning.</p>

	<p>Our clinicians are well-trained in both the diagnosis and management of this condition.</p> <p>The Royal College of Emergency Medicine includes the diagnosis and management of sodium nitrite poisoning as a key component of the emergency medicine curriculum. Our emergency department adheres to this curriculum as the foundation for our educational programme.</p> <p>All patients presenting with drug overdoses and poisoning, our clinicians utilize Toxbase. This is the primary clinical toxicology database of the National Poisons Information Service (NPIS) and serves as a first-line resource for UK healthcare professionals. It provides detailed information on the routine diagnosis, treatment, and management of poisoning, ensuring that our team has immediate access to the latest guidelines and treatment protocols.</p> <p>Our medical team is proficient in recognizing the symptoms of sodium nitrite poisoning and knows the appropriate use of the antidote when required.</p>
<p>3) Does the A&E department at the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust routinely carry the antidote methylthioninium chloride commonly called methylene blue?</p>	<p>I can confirm A&E Resus Dept does keep stock of the antidote methylthioninium chloride commonly called methylene blue.</p>

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