

Trust Headquarters
Russells Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-042025-0001560

Date: 20.5.25

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please see response below.

This is an information request relating to NHS Trusts buying and supplying Paracetamol and ibuprofen.

Please include the following information for the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25:

1. The total number of individual patients to whom paracetamol and ibuprofen were prescribed by your Trust annually.	<p>We are unable to answer as we do not hold the information you have requested in a reportable format.</p> <p>The ICO guidance clearly states “FOIA only applies to information that a public authority already holds in recorded form at the time of a request. If you don't hold a particular piece of information that someone has asked for, you don't have to create it”.</p>												
2. The total amount spent by your Trust on supplying prescribed paracetamol and Ibuprofen in each of those financial years.	<table><tr><th>FY</th><th>IBUPROFEN</th><th>PARACETAMOL</th></tr><tr><td>22-23</td><td>£7,469</td><td>£52,706</td></tr><tr><td>23-24</td><td>£6,280</td><td>£56,804</td></tr><tr><td>24-25</td><td>£7,264</td><td>£59,690</td></tr></table>	FY	IBUPROFEN	PARACETAMOL	22-23	£7,469	£52,706	23-24	£6,280	£56,804	24-25	£7,264	£59,690
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3. If available, a breakdown of the form in which paracetamol was prescribed (e.g., tablets, capsules, liquid suspension, etc.) and associated costs for each form.	<p>We are unable to provide a breakdown of the form as we do not hold the information you have requested in a reportable format.</p>												
4. What are the specific conditions which qualify a patient to be prescribed paracetamol or ibuprofen? Or what is your general policy for qualifying a prescription for paracetamol or ibuprofen?	<p>Pain analgesia protocols are in place.</p> <p>For non-elective treatment pathways: Treatment is provided as per in-patient admission and discharge medication supply as stipulated in NHS Standard contract.</p> <p>For elective treatment pathways all patients are counselled and supported to purchase over the counter analgesia and have ready for</p>												

discharge. Analgesia needed as advised by surgical treatment protocol

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