

Luton & Dunstable University Hospital
Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Lewsey Road
Luton
LU4 0DZ

Bedford Hospital
Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Kempston Road
Bedford
MK42 9DJ

04/11/2020

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request which was received within the Trust.

In accordance with S.1 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), I can confirm **that we do hold the information relevant to your request. FOI 155**

Response from Luton and Dunstable University Hospital

1-3) Medicines shortages is on the risk register. (It is general not specific to ITU but includes ITU)

- a) Put on risk register 5/6/2014**
- b) Last review 23/9/2020**
- c) High Risk**

4) Luton site: 3 safety incidents recorded at your Trust which relate to the preparation and /or the manipulation/mixing of medicines in critical care areas between 1 January 2019 and 1 September 2020

5) Luton site: 3 (1x compatibility, 1x wrong drug, no label on infusion) safety incidents recorded at your Trust which relate to administration, preparation, and/or the manipulation/mixing of noradrenaline at the bedside between 1 January 2019 and 1 September 2020

6) The trust pharmacy has a purchase for safety stance. Where appropriate, and after robust risk assessment, ready to use iv preps are used where there is a clear need

7) Medusa is subscribed to and readily available to all ward areas

8) This does not fall within the FOI process.

9) The trust pharmacy department does not stockpile any medicines unless requested to by the regional pharmacy procurement team.

Response from Bedford Hospital

1) Confirm or deny whether disruption to supply of ICU medicines is included as a risk on the Trust's risk register

Drug shortages are included on the risk register

2) Confirm or deny whether disruption to supply of noradrenaline is included as a risk on the Trust's risk register

Drug shortages are included on the risk register

3) With regards to the above 2 questions:

a. When were the risks put on the register **04/02/2019**

b. When are they to be reviewed **15/12/2020**

c. What significance status have they been given. e.g. use of a RAG-rating system **Initially Red, currently Amber**

4) Provide the number of safety incidents recorded at your Trust which relate to the preparation and/or the manipulation/mixing of medicines in critical care areas between 1 January 2019 and 1 September 2020 **1**

5) Provide the number of safety incidents recorded at your Trust which relate to administration, preparation, and/or the manipulation/mixing of noradrenaline at the bedside between 1 January 2019 and 1 September 2020. Provide details of the reported cases. **0**

6) Confirm or deny if your Trust has taken action to adhere to the guidance published by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, titled Safe and Secure Handling of Medicines (December 2018), specifically with regards to appendix C and, "as outlined in the core guidance, manipulation of medicines in clinical areas is minimised and medicines are presented as prefilled syringes or other 'ready-to-administer' preparations wherever possible..." <https://www.rpharms.com/recognition/setting-professional-standards/safe-and-secure-handling-of-medicines/professional-guidance-on-the-safe-and-secure-handling-of-medicines>

Action has been taken in relation to this guidance

7) Confirm or deny if your Trust subscribes to and follows the guidance provided on IV administration of medication by the MEDUSA injectable medicines guide.

Yes we have a subscription and encourage the use on Medusa

8) Supply evidence of the process the Trust has taken to address the principles outlined in the guidance above, specifically with regards to "the manipulation of medicines in clinical areas is minimised and medicines are presented as prefilled syringes or other 'ready-to-administer' preparations..."

We do not hold this information

9) Confirm or deny whether your Trust is stockpiling ready-to-use or ready-to-administer noradrenaline for the likely increased demand over the next 6 months (stockpiling is defined as retaining medicines with a shelf-life of at least 12 months)

No, the Trust is not stockpiling

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Please note that the Trust has a formal internal review and complaints process which is managed by the Information Governance Manager/Data Protection Officer. Should you have any concerns with our response, you can make a formal request for an internal review. Requests *for internal review* should be submitted within three months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter, and should be addressed to:

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Or by emailing bhn-tr.foibedfordshirehospitals@nhs.net. This option is available to you for up to three calendar months from the date your response was issued.

If you are not satisfied with the Trust review under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Officer (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. The ICO can be contacted at: ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

IG/FOI Coordinator

Bedford Hospital, Kempston, Bedford
MK42 9DJ

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