



FOI 2187

Date 31/07/2023

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request. Please note, this is a cross-site response for Bedford site and Luton site.

You asked:

1. **Please tell me how many times your Trust has logged an incident of alleged sexual harassment from patients towards staff in 2022.**
6
2. **For the five most recent cases, please tell me**
 - a) **The job title of the member of staff against whom the behaviour was levelled**
 - b) **A brief summary of the content of the complaint (patient said "you can warm your hands up on me" during a physical examination, patient wolf-whistled at nurse, etc.).**
 - c) **The action taken by the Trust.**

Search - Description	Job title	Action taken
A male patient made repetitive requests for female staff member's personal telephone number despite being told no. Also made invitations to go out for a drink, which the staff member declined.	Exempt under Section 40 (Personal Information)	Logged on Datix. Reported to PALS Emailed Health and Safety Patient provided with alternative contact.
During BM checks staff member asked patient for his finger to do a finger prick. Patient quoted back "I could do a lot more with my finger if you want" and then he smiled.	Exempt under Section 40 (Personal Information)	Logged on Datix. Informed Nurse in Charge. Patient behaviour chart updated. Two nurses to attend patient.
Assisting a patient to transfer from his wheelchair onto a couch. Staff member asked if he wanted a hand getting onto the couch. He said "no but I would take your bum" and slapped my bum twice.	Exempt under Section 40 (Personal Information)	Logged on Datix. Advised patient this was inappropriate and no further contact with patient.



Staff in 1:1 with patient. Patient asked if staff member wanted to have intercourse with her. Patient asked staff member if could perform oral sex on staff member. Patient flashed breasts. Patient groped male genitalia twice. Patient groped buttocks. Patient exhibiting vulgar sexual language. Patient masturbating in bed with legs.	Exempt under Section 40 (Personal Information)	Logged on Datix. Escalated to Nurse in Charge. Advised to contact security.
Patient confronted staff member close to face. Attempted to touch her face and body. Kept moving towards staff member inappropriately.	Exempt under Section 40 (Personal Information)	Logged on Datix. Security informed. Advised female staff members not to attend to patient alone.

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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: dataprotectionofficer@ldh.nhs.uk. 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,

FOI Officer

Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust