

Freedom of Information Act 2000 disclosure log entry

Reference

19-20328

Date sent

28/02/2020

Subject

GIDS Hormone Blockers Prescribed 2018/19 & 19/20

Details of enquiry

1. The number of child patients aged 17 and under who have been prescribed hormone blockers while under the service in the financial years 2019/20 and 2018/19, broken down by the age of the patient at the time they received their first dose of hormone blocker.
2. The number of children aged 17 and under who have been prescribed hormone blockers in the financial years 2019/20 and 2018/19, broken down by the birth sex of the patient.
3. A list of all hormone blockers that the GIDS is able to prescribe to children aged 17 and under.

Response Sent

1. The number of child patients aged 17 and under who have been prescribed hormone blockers while under the service in the financial years 2019/20 and 2018/19, broken down by the age of the patient at the time they received their first dose of hormone blocker.

Whilst I confirm that the Trust holds information falling within this scope, the dates on which hormone treatment was prescribed and commenced are not held for all patients.

The Tavistock and Portman NHS FT does not prescribe puberty blockers or any other medication linked to the treatment of young people presenting to GIDS. This is the domain of endocrinologists who are employed by other NHS Trusts. There are a number of arrangements for prescription of the blockers which are most often administered locally, and we therefore may not have the date on which hormone treatment commenced for all patients

The Trust records of hormone treatment are held on individual patient files within the free text notes sections and we cannot automate electronic collation of this data, as our computerised patient records system does not have a dedicated electronic field to collect this. We have estimated that spending a notional 20 minutes per patient file to identify, and extract such data for collation into such a report, would take 322 hours per thousand files, which is beyond the 18 hours provisioned under section 12 of the FOI Act 2000. Accordingly, the Trust is not obliged to respond to this question and so we will not be processing it further.

Should you wish to narrow the scope of your request then the Trust would treat any reformulated request we receive as a fresh FOI request and we may be able to help you.

2. The number of children aged 17 and under who have been prescribed hormone blockers in the financial years 2019/20 and 2018/19, broken down by the birth sex of the patient.

The Trust records of patients who have been prescribed hormone blockers are held on individual patient files within the free text notes sections and we cannot automate electronic collation of this data, as our computerised patient records system does not have a dedicated electronic field to collect this. We have estimated that spending a notional 20 minutes per patient file to identify, and extract such data for collation into such a report, would take 322 hours per thousand files, which is beyond the 18 hours provisioned under section 12 of the FOI Act 2000. Accordingly, the Trust is not obliged to respond to this question and so we will not be processing it further.

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3. A list of all hormone blockers that the GIDS is able to prescribe to children aged 17 and under.
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