



Kent and Medway

NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust

Information Governance & Records Management Department

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Dear [REDACTED]

Request for Information

I write further to your request FOI ID 42598 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding: -

Physician Associates

Your request is set out below:

1) In several physician associates (PAs) have erroneously prescribed medications to patients. If this has happened at your trust, please provide the following information:

a) The earliest and latest date a prescription was made by a physician associate?

b) The total number of physician associates who have made unauthorised prescriptions?

c) The total number of prescriptions made by PAs that have been acted on, i.e. patients given medication?

d) The total number of prescription requests made by PAs that were not acted on, i.e. patients not given medications?

e) Please list all controlled medications and cytotoxic drugs prescribed by physician associates, and the total number of occasions on which they were prescribed?

f) Please give the number of patients who came to harm as a result of PAs making any unauthorised prescriptions?

g) Please explain how it was possible for PAs to prescribe medication at your trust (e.g. PAs accidentally given prescribing functionality)?

h) What steps have you taken to rectify this issue, including any penalties for the physician associates involved?

2) Several trusts have reported situations in which their physician associates (PAs) have erroneously ordered ionising radiation. If this has happened at your trust, please provide the following information:

We are proud to be smoke free

Trust Chair – Dr Jackie Craissati

Chief Executive – Sheila Stenson

a) Total number of incidents in which PAs made requests for ionising radiation?

b) Total number of incidents in which PAs made requests for ionising radiation, and these requests were acted on (i.e. the patient received the scan with ionising radiation as requested by the PA)?

I confirm that the information above completes your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am also pleased to confirm that no charge will be made for this request.

The Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust currently employ three Physician Associates however, they do not prescribe medications. Therefore, our response to all above questions is N/A – not applicable.

I confirm that the information above completes your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am also pleased to confirm that no charge will be made for this request.

If you have any questions or concerns or are unhappy with the response provided or the service you have received you can write to the Head of Information Governance at the address on top of this letter. If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

Yours Sincerely

On Behalf of
The Information Governance Department