

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-743

28 October 2024

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting

We are sending this enquiry regarding the management of sedated patients in your hospital intensive care (ICU) unit(s). We would welcome responses to the following questions:

1. What is the percentage of beds occupied by mechanically ventilated patients, for the period April 2023-April 2024?

2.21%

2. What is the percentage of patients sedated with propofol when mechanically ventilated, for the period April 2023-April 2024?

54%

3. How frequently do you assess sedation level in a mechanically ventilated patient (average number of times per day)? (please can you provide a copy of your trust protocol)

At least four times per day. The table below outlines the requirements to complete assessments within a minimum standard for level 3 (ICU patients) who are receiving continuous sedation, Level 3 patients who are awake, and level 2 (HDU) patients.

| Dependency of patient | RASS frequency | CAMICU Frequency for patient with no previous <i>CAMICU</i> +ve scores and normal behaviour | CAMICU Frequency for patient that has been <i>CAMICU</i> +ve +/- has abnormal behaviour | GCS and pupil reaction assessment |
|-----------------------|----------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
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|------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------|--|---|
| Level 3 sedated patient | 1-2hrly | 12hrly unless RASS +1 or <-2 | 2-4hrly - allow periods uninterrupted rest | 6hrly unless indicated to need increase frequency |
| Level 3 non-sedated patient | 2-4hrly | 12hrly unless RASS +1 or <-2 | 2-4hrly - allow rest periods of uninterrupted rest | 6hrly unless indicated to need increase frequency |
| Level 2 patient | 4-6hrly | 12hrly unless RASS +1 or <-2 | 2-4hrly - allow periods uninterrupted rest | 6hrly unless indicated to need increase frequency |

4. How frequently do you undertake sedation hold in a mechanically ventilated patient (average number of times per day)?

At least daily if appropriate, unless contraindicated.

5. Do you have a recommended daily sedation target / sedation depth target / optimum sedation target for mechanically ventilated patient?

Yes - Target RASS (Richmond Agitated Sedation Scale) score

6. If yes, what measures are put in place to meet this target?

Clinical judgement related to RASS target by nurses and medical team.

7. What is the incidence of delirium in mechanically ventilated patients?

Approximately 50%

8. How many times has the ICU reached critical capacity and elective activity has been impacted and had to be cancelled, for the period April 2023-April 2024?

Four

9. What is the percentage / number of registered ICU nurse(s) from bank/agency on any one shift?

Approximately one Registered Nurse per shift

10. What is the average monthly spend on bank / agency ICU registered nurse(s), for the period April 2023-April 2024?

£213,000

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Data Protection Officer
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust