

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-802

12 November 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

I would like to request information regarding your Trust's practices related to dispensing and prescribing medications in the following areas. Please respond by selecting the most appropriate option for each question:

1. Emergency Departments (ED):

- **Are Take-Home (TTO) medications dispensed directly to patients from the ED?**
 - Yes, always.
 - Yes, but only during certain hours (e.g., out-of-hours).
 - No, a prescription is issued for collection at a pharmacy.
 - Hybrid model: Medications are dispensed during certain hours, and a prescription is issued at other times. ✓

2. Outpatient Clinics:

- **Are medications dispensed directly to patients in outpatient clinics?**
 - Yes, always.
 - Yes, but only during certain hours.
 - No, a prescription is issued for collection at a pharmacy.
 - Hybrid model: Medications are dispensed during certain hours, and a prescription is issued at other times. ✓
- **If prescriptions are issued, can these prescriptions be fulfilled at any pharmacy?**
 - Yes, the prescriptions can be taken to any pharmacy.
 - No, the prescriptions are restricted to the hospital pharmacy. ✓

3. In-Patients Being Discharged:

- **For in-patients being discharged, are TTO medications dispensed directly from the hospital pharmacy, or is a prescription given?**
 - **Medications are always dispensed directly.**
 - **A prescription is given for the patient to collect the medications from a pharmacy.**
 - **Hybrid model: Some medications are dispensed directly, while others are prescribed for collection. ✓**

I would appreciate it if you could provide any relevant documents, protocols, or guidelines related to these practices.

There are no documents available. The decision on how to prescribe is made by the clinician based on time of day and whether the hospital inpatient or outpatient dispensing service is open/available.

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