Re: FOI 2015-412

Following your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which we received on 25th August 2015, we are providing you information as held by Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

In your query, you requested the following information on hospital admissions for people suffering ill effects of “legal highs”, New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), “Spice”, a laboratory-created cannabis substitute, nitrous oxide (“laughing gas”), and other chemicals, for each of the financial years 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15. In particular, you asked for detail as to:

1. The number of people admitted to your hospital(s) as a result of taking NPS
2. The number of deaths at your hospital(s) in people recorded as having taken NPS
3. The type of substance in each case (if known)
4. The gender of the patient in each case
5. Please provide the data by way of a month-by-month breakdown
6. Please indicate if the patient was treated in A&E or on a different ward

In response to your query, the Trust does not hold the information in the formats you have requested as recreational drug usage is not captured by inpatient coding teams.

If you are not happy with the way in which your request has been dealt with or are dissatisfied with this response and wish to appeal, please write to Information Governance Manager at information.governance@chelwest.nhs.uk. Your complaint will be dealt with through our internal review process.

If you are still not satisfied following the Internal Review, you have a right to complaint to the Information Commissioner’s Office. He can be contacted at casework@ico.org.uk.

Re-use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No.1515 which came into force on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will license the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for a purpose other than which it was originally supplied. However, The Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Yours sincerely,

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Information Governance Analyst