



Freedom of Information Request

Ref: UHB 19-414

30 July 2019

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:

1. Please tell me in the previous three financial years (2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19) how many times fridges used to cool drugs malfunctioned resulting in loss of pharmaceutical stock.
There were 6 incidents where fridges used to cool drugs malfunctioned resulting in loss in pharmaceutical stock.
2. For each separate incident, please tell me
 - a. the value of the drugs lost: This is not routinely recorded for all incidents.
 - b. the cost to fix the malfunctioning fridge: The Trust does not hold this information centrally as repair or replacement of fridge will fall under a different department using a different software and therefore it is not possible to connect the two. The Trust does not hold that information.
 - c. the name and value of the most expensive drug lost: Please note that the Trust can reveal the name of the drugs affected where these have been recorded, but since quantity and or value is not recorded, we are unable to calculate cost.

Please also provide a copy of the incident report filed following the event.

The Trust will not provide the relevant incident reports because they include names of staff, description of events and information that may lead to identification of individuals. Disclosure of this would be in contravention of the principles set out in EU General Data Protection Regulations 2016 (GDPR) and UK Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA). A list of the incidents with basic information is attached.

However, the following table is a list of the incidents reported with basic information.

Incident date	Reported	Description	Action taken (Investigation)	Closed	Drugs affected	Value of drugs
07/12/2016	07/12/2016	Drug fridge temperature out of range (-4 degrees).	Affected stock discarded. Stock medication replaced. Checking of fridge temperatures emphasized in discussions in every handover.	03/04/2017	Caspofungin Acetate, Rituximab, Mycophenolate Mofetil	Not recorded
26/05/2017	26/05/2017	Fridge temperature, out of range.	Stock quarantined and three products discarded. Daily safety brief emphasizing the importance of ensuring fridge door shut after use.	31/05/2017	Carboprost, Suxamethonium Chloride, Atracurium Besylate	£900
16/08/2017	23/08/2017	Fridge temperature, out of range.	Items removed from fridge and destroyed. Staff to check fridges each Sunday.	02/10/2017	Pegaspargase, Rituximab, Anti Human Thymocyte Immunoglobulin (Rabbit)	22,524
25/09/2017	26/09/2017	Fridge temperature failure.	Medication from the fridge removed immediately. New fridge purchased.	03/10/2017	Tocilizumab	Not recorded
02/07/2018	02/07/2018	Fridge temperature, out of range.	Faulty fridge thermometer. Contents of fridge disposed. Checking of fridge temperature added to safety brief.	03/07/2018	Lorazepam	Not recorded
14/11/2018	14/11/2018	Warm fridge, actual temperature unreadable.	Drugs quarantined. Compressor of fridge broken.	14/11/2018	Trastuzumab	Not recorded

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:

Trust Secretary
University Hospitals Bristol 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

FOI Team
UH Bristol NHS Foundation Trust