

Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am pleased to confirm the following.

Training and staff awareness

Q1. What training is provided/sourced by the Trust to raise awareness among staff (in particular ward based staff) about the needs of inpatients with Parkinson's, particularly around timing of medication for these patients?

Medicines Management mandatory training includes a section about missed doses and critical medicines, with one of the examples used for Parkinson's medications.

Q2. How many a) staff overall and b) ward based staff have undertaken such training during 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 to date?

2017/2018

a) Staff overall – 754

b) Ward based staff – Nursing 281 + Medical 182

April 2018/March 2019

a) Staff overall – 762

b) Ward based staff – Nursing 280 + Medical 115

Alert system

Q1. Does the Trust have any kind of electronic (or other) alert system in place to flag to the Parkinson's service when a person with the condition is admitted to hospital in a) a planned way and b) as an emergency?

There is no electronic alert in place to flag that a patient who has Parkinson's is admitted. Staff are aware of internal support available- i.e. Geriatrician team, vulnerable adults nurse if required

Q2. If the Trust does not have an alert system, how are the Parkinson's specialist service notified and subsequently involved in the care of a person admitted with Parkinson's (whether or not Parkinson's is the reason for admission.)

See above

Self-administration of medication policies

Q1. Does the Trust have a self-administration of medication policy? If a policy does not currently exist, are there any current plans to implement one?

Yes

Q3. If a self-administration policy is not implemented, why is this the case?

The policy is utilised on a patient specific basis and as such is not used extensively. The Trust is currently in the process of review to increase its use.

Q2. If a self-administration policy is in place what systems and protocols are in place to a) ensure full and effective implementation and b) monitor its implementation?

Any patient utilising self-administration is followed up by the Pharmacist for the ward.

Carers

Q1. Does the Trust have a policy that allows carers to visit the person with Parkinson's they care for outside of visiting hours?

We have John's Campaign; however this does not cover Parkinsons specifically. It covers any patient with specific needs where outside visiting hours would be beneficial to the patient.

Q2. What training do ward staff receive to ensure they fully understand how a carer can support an inpatient with things such as mobilising and their medication regime etc?

The Trust has no specific training, however this is broadly covered in the Essential skills/CORE training nursing staff are offered every 2 years, also would be covered in Manual Handling training and Medicines Management.

Q3. What systems and protocols are in place for ward staff to work with carers supporting the person with Parkinson's in hospital to ensure flexibility when the need arises?

See above.

Practical resources

Q1. Is the Trust aware of the practical resources available from Parkinson's UK to support Parkinson's patients getting their medication on time (e.g. laminate bedside clocks, washbags) and how to access these resources?

Within the Trust we have previously used timers to remind staff of administration of medications.

Q2. Does the Trust make use of these practical resources?

The wards would review a patients needs and if a resource was required this would be discussed with the Matron and a way forward agreed so the patients care was not compromised.

Patient safety incidents

Q1. Are incidents of a) missed Parkinson's medication doses and b) delays to the administration of doses of Parkinson's medication reported as patient safety incidents through local reporting arrangements?

The Trust have a category on Datix for medication incidents which includes omissions of doses/administering delays. This is not specific to any particular group of medications & will be dependent on each case/occurrence.

Q2. a) How many Parkinson's patient safety incidents relating to medication were recorded in your Trust in the last reporting period?

The Trust does not record this information.

Q3. How many complaints has the Trust received about missed or delayed administration of Parkinson's medication in a) 2017/2018 and b) 2018/2019 to date?

The Trust does not record this information in a central location. To obtain this information would entail trawling through patients records which would require permission and exceed the appropriate time limit.

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Yours sincerely,

Freedom Of Information Co-ordinator
For and on behalf of Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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