

Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information which we received on Wednesday 25th October 2023. I am pleased to confirm the following.

1. General Information:

How many active Patient Group Directions (PGDs) does the Trust currently have in place?

58

In which departments or services within the Trust are PGDs most used?

In terms of numbers of PGDs: Emergency Department (14), Ophthalmology (13) Imaging (12)

Usage of PGDs:

Over the past 3 years, how many patients have been treated under a PGD in the Trust?

We are unable to extract this data to provide a meaningful response. To add, we are currently only live with ED and inpatients in the Trust, so any PGDs administered in an outpatient setting would not be recorded via eCARE (electronic prescribing system) and therefore we would only be providing a partial response.

How does the Trust ensure that PGDs are only used by those healthcare professionals competent to do so?

Only HCPs who are trained and competent are authorised by signatures (the HCP's and the authorising manager) to operate under PGD.

Types of Medications:

Please provide a list of all medications currently administered under a PGD within the Trust.

Cetirizine
Co-Amoxiclav
Codeine
Flucloxacillin
Fluorescein
Lidocaine
Naproxen

Nitrous Oxide + Oxygen
Paracetamol
Proxymetacaine
Salbutamol
Lidocaine + Adrenaline
Phosphate enemas
Gadobutrol
Gadoteric Acid Meglumine
Gadotexate
Heparin
Hyoscine Butylbromide
Iohexol
Iomeprol
Mannitol
Sodium Chloride injection
Pertussis vaccine
Omeprazole
Tranexamic Acid
Benzylpenicillin
Mupirocin
Tetracaine
Carbomer
Chloramphenicol
Povidone Iodine
Cyclopentolate
Apraclonidine
Hypromellose
Lidocaine + Fluoroscein
Tropicamide

Are there specific medications that the Trust has deemed unsuitable for PGD use? If so, which ones?

No, but existing PGDs for P (Pharmacy) classification medicines are being converted at review to Medicines Administration Protocols.

Audit Policy:

How frequently does the Trust audit the use of PGDs?

Each PGD is has a review date and review of need and clinical content is required before expiry date.

What measures are in place to ensure the safe and appropriate use of PGDs, based on audit findings?

The committee providing organisational authorisation of PGDs requires evidence in each PGD Document History that review has taken place and the user Department's Clinical Improvement Group has approved the outcomes of reviews.

Have there been any adverse events or incidents in the past 3 years related to the use of PGDs? If so, how many and what were the main issues identified?

None recorded.

5. Review and Update:

What is the Trust's policy on the regular review and update of PGDs?

Each PGD is has a review date of 18 months assigned and expectation is that review occurs before the 2 year expiry date

How often are PGDs typically reviewed and updated within the Trust?

As above in answer 5a

Who is responsible for the creation, review, and update of PGDs within the Trust?

Pharmacists, Doctors, Nurses, Midwives, Radiographers, Audiologists

6. Training:

What training does the Trust provide to staff regarding the use of PGDs?

There are online training programmes made available

How frequently is this training provided and updated?

Every 2-3 years

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If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address above.

Yours sincerely,

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

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