



Freedom of Information Team
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Name:

Email:

Date: 23rd June 2023

Ref: 23-24 135

Dear

RE: Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received by the Trust on 01/06/2023. Please see responses to your requests below.

Q1a. With regards to administration sets (pump and gravity) used to infuse IV antibiotics, does your institution have a policy to flush the administration set to give the full dose of antibiotics in accordance with the following guidelines?

Please see the document attached to this letter.

Q1b. If the answer to Q1a is “yes”, is your organisation fully compliant with your policy to flush the administration set to give the full dose of antibiotics in accordance with guidelines?

Please see attachment in question 1a.

Q1c. If the answer to Q1a is “yes”, do you follow method 1 or 2 as outlined by the NIVAS guidelines linked above?

Please see attachment in question 1a.

Q2a. With regards to administration sets (pump and gravity) used to infuse IV antibiotics, if you do have a policy in place to flush the administration set, have you audited compliance with this policy?

Please see attachment in question 1a.

Q2b. If the answer to Q2a is “yes”, can you share the audit results? If so, please provide a copy as an attachment to your response to this FoIR.

Please see attachment in question 1a.

Q3. What education measures have you put in place to ensure healthcare professionals in your organisation understand:

a. The existing guidance on flushing administration sets that are used for IV antibiotic infusions (as laid out in the sources above)?

Please see attachment in question 1a.

- b. The patient risks involved with failing to flush the residual volume of IV antibiotics in the administration sets?**
Please see attachment in question 1a.
- c. The possible effects of not flushing the IV administration set containing IV antibiotics on antimicrobial resistance?**
Please see attachment in question 1a.

Q4. With regards to administration sets (pump and gravity) used to infuse IV antibiotics, which of the following (if any) are included in your policy with regards to disposing of the administration set and residual volume of either the prescribed antibiotic or flushing solution?

- a. Complete administration set (including drip chamber with sharp) is disposed of into the yellow bag.**
Please see attachment in question 1a.
- b. Complete administration set (including drip chamber with sharp) is disposed of into the orange bag.**
Please see attachment in question 1a.
- c. Complete administration set (including drip chamber with sharp) is disposed of into the sharps bin.**
Please see attachment in question 1a.
- d. Drip chamber/sharp are detached from the administration set line and the drip chamber/sharp disposed of in the sharps bin and the rest of the administration set line disposed of in the yellow bag.**
Please see attachment in question 1a.
- e. Drip chamber/sharp is detached from the administration set line and the drip chamber/sharp disposed of in the sharps bin and the rest of the administration set line disposed of in the orange bag.**
Please see attachment in question 1a.
- f. Other (please state)**
Please see attachment in question 1a.

Please accept this letter as completion of your request. Please note that copies of this request will be held on file for three years before being confidentially destroyed.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, please contact our Head of Information Governance on Information.Governance@porthosp.nhs.uk or write to the above address and we will conduct an internal review. Upon review, if you are still dissatisfied, you may appeal our decision by contacting the Information Commissioner's Office; for more information, please visit the [ICO's website](#).

Please be aware, if we do not receive an appeal within 30 days of you receiving this letter, we will assume that you are satisfied with our response. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team

Please provide a response to the questions below in accordance with further detail outlined in the Freedom of Information Request letter titled 'Antibiotic Administration Set Line Flushing'

Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust

Question Number	Question	Please answer using the drop down boxes where provided or using free text where no drop box is provided.	Additional Comments	Guidance notes for answering question
1a	With regards to administration sets (pump and gravity) used to infuse IV antibiotics, does your institution have a policy to flush the administration set to give the full dose of antibiotics in accordance with guidelines?	yes	NIVAS Guidance referred to in the Trust Injectable Medicines Policy	Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
1b	If yes to question 1a, is your organisation fully compliant with your policy to flush the administration set to give the full dose of antibiotics in accordance with guidelines?	no	Unknown - not currently not audited	Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
1c	If yes to question 1a, do you follow method 1 or 2 as outlined by the National Infusion and Vascular Access Society (NIVAS) guidance on line flushing 2021?		Unknown- Either method may be used depending on area where administered/ IV lines available/ medication being administered	https://nivas.org.uk/contentimages/main/NIVAS-Infusion-flushing-guidelines-2021-Version-3-2-FINAL.pdf
2a	With regards to administration sets (pump and gravity) used to infuse IV antibiotics, if you do have a policy in place to flush the administration set, have you audited compliance with this policy?	no		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
2b	Can you share the audit results (if yes, please can you provide a copy)?	no		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
3a	What education have you put in place to ensure healthcare professionals in your organisation understand the guidance on flushing administration sets that are used for IV antibiotic infusions?	Being incorporated into Trust IV training course at Trust and Nursing Medication Safety Day		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
3b	What education have you put in place to ensure healthcare professionals in your organisation understand the patient risks involved with failing to flush the residual volume of IV antibiotics in the administration sets?	Being incorporated into Trust IV training course at Trust and Nursing Medication Safety Day		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
3c	What education have you put in place to ensure healthcare professionals in your organisation understand the possible effects of not flushing the IV administration set containing IV antibiotics on antimicrobial resistance?	Being incorporated into Trust IV training course at Trust and Nursing Medication Safety Day		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
4	With regards to administration sets (pump and gravity) used to infuse IV antibiotics, which of the following (if any) are included in your policy with regards to disposing of the administration set and residual volume of either the prescribed antibiotic or flushing solution?			
4a	Complete administration set (including drip chamber with sharp) is disposed of into the yellow bag.	no	All medication is disposed of in blue POM medicinal waste bins for disposal by incineration	Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
4b	Complete administration set (including drip chamber with sharp) is disposed of into the orange bag.	no		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
4c	Complete administration set (including drip chamber with sharp) is disposed of into the sharps bin.	no		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
4d	Drip chamber/sharp are detached from the administration set line and the drip chamber/sharp disposed of in the sharps bin and the rest of the administration set line disposed of in the yellow bag.	no		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
4e	Drip chamber/sharp is detached from the administration set line and the drip chamber/sharp disposed of in the sharps bin and the rest of the administration set line disposed of in the orange bag	no		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology

	4f Other (please state)	According to the Trust Waste management Policy, any medication waste or IV bags, with/without giving set (no sharp exposed) are disposed of in blue medicinal waste bin for disposal by incineration		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
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