

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

RF23-379

### Request:

1. Does the Trust's maternity department offer Remifentanil as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23?
2. If the Trust did offer Remifentanil as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23, was it at any point not available and, if so and if possible to calculate, approximately how many days was this not available as an option for?
3. Whether the Trust's maternity department offered Entonox as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23?
4. If the Trust did offer Entonox as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23, was it at any point not available and, if so and if possible to calculate, approximately how many days this was not available as an option for?
5. Whether the Trust's maternity department offered sterile water injections as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23?
6. If the Trust did offer sterile water injections as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23, was it at any point not available and, if so and if possible to calculate, approximately how many days this was not available as an option for?

### Response:

We can confirm East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT) holds the information you have requested.

1. Remifentanil PCA is only currently available on the labour ward at William Harvey Hospital (WHH).
2. There have been occasions in 2022-23 when Remifentanil PCA was unable to be offered to eligible women on the labour ward at WHH. One of the criteria for using a Remifentanil PCA in labour is the continuous presence of a PCA trained midwife caring for the woman. It has not always been possible to meet this requirement. Information is not held on the number of times this occurred.
3. Yes
4. We temporarily suspended Entonox at the WHH from 24 November 2022 to 01 December 2022. We did not suspend Entonox at the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital (QEQM).
5. We do not offer sterile water injections as a pain relief option during labour.
6. N/A

**(DATE OF RESPONSE: 05 JULY 2023)**

