

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

RF24-017

Request:

1. Are A&E clinicians and nurses employed by EKHUFT trained to recognise the symptoms of sodium nitrite poisoning?
2. Are A&E clinicians and nurses employed by EKHUFT trained to treat patients suffering with sodium nitrite poisoning with the antidote methylthioninium chloride commonly called methylene blue?
3. Does the A&E department(s) at EKHUFT routinely carry the antidote methylthioninium chloride commonly called methylene blue?

Response:

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

1. The Freedom of Information Act applies only to requests for recorded information. The information requested is not held.
2. Information not held, however we can confirm that the Trust follows national guidance on toxicology held on Toxbase, an online poisons information database providing clinical toxicology advice to healthcare professionals managing poisoned patients.
3. The Trust pharmacy has a central stock of methylthioninium chloride that is kept as an antidote and would be supplied on an urgent basis to any A&E in the Trust. The level is according to Royal College of Emergency Medicine (RCEM) recommendations.

(DATE OF RESPONSE: 18 JANUARY 2024)