Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: EPUT.FOI.19.1139
Date Received: 2 July 2019

Information Requested:

I’m requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, on how medical staff at the trust use instant messaging to communicate.

1. Are medical staff permitted to use third-party instant messaging/communication applications (e.g. WhatsApp, Skype, SMS, Facebook messenger etc.) to exchange or communicate patient data?
   - Yes
   - No
   - Not sure

2. Do medical staff use any of the following communication apps to share patient data with their colleagues (please select as many as applicable)
   - WhatsApp
   - SMS
   - Skype
   - Skype for Business
   - StarLeaf
   - Instagram
   - Facebook Messenger
   - LinkedIn Messenger
   - Google Hangouts
   - Slack
   - Other
   - Not sure
3. If no, what other systems do medical staff use to communicate and share patient data with their colleagues? (please select as many as applicable)
   - Letters
   - Paper files
   - Phone
   - Email
   - Other [please specify] - internal electronic patient records systems
   - Not sure

4. Does your trust have any processes in place to stop medical staff accessing patient data (for example, which they have exchanged with other medical staff from their personal device) when they have left the NHS trust and moved on to new job?
   - Yes
   - No
   - Not sure

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**Publication Scheme:**

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT’s Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link [https://eput.nhs.uk/publication-documents/](https://eput.nhs.uk/publication-documents/)