Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: EPUT.FOI.19.1351
Date Received: 4th December 2019

Information Requested:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please could you provide answers to the following:

1. For each of the financial years 2015/16 to 2019/20:
   a. How many of your patients had an indwelling urinary catheter (also called a Foley catheter) placed or were admitted with a urinary catheter in situ?

   Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust does not centrally collate this information. To obtain this data would require a manual trawl of individual patient records which would exceed the time and cost limits, as set out in the Act. The Trust is therefore applying Section 12 of the Act (where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit)

   b. How many patients with an indwelling urinary catheter got a Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI)?

   Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust does not centrally collate this information. To obtain this data would require a manual trawl of individual patient records which would exceed the time and cost limits, as set out in the Act. The Trust is therefore applying Section 12 of the Act (where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit)

   c. How many cases were there of a primary CAUTI developing into a gram-negative bloodstream infection?

   None

2. Do you track where CAUTIs originate i.e. the hospital Trust or in the community?

   No

3. Does your Trust follow guidance or protocols for:

   a. The recognition, diagnosis and treatment of a CAUTI? If so, please indicate what these are.

      Antimicrobial prescribing formulary

   b. Urinary Catheter selection, insertion and ongoing care? If so, please indicate what these are.

      Royal Marsden clinical guidelines and protocols
Infection Prevention and control guidelines

Catheter care bundle

MRSA screening guidelines

c. What processes does the Trust have in place to ensure practical adherence to the guidelines in a) and b)? How does the Trust monitor these processes?

Audit

4. How many prescriptions of antimicrobials/antibiotics were dispensed in each of the financial years from 2015/16 to 2019/20 in relation to a CAUTI?

EPUT does not centrally collate this information. To obtain this data would require a manual trawl of individual patient records which would exceed the time and cost limits, as set out in the Act. The Trust is therefore applying Section 12 of the Act (where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit).

a. How many different antimicrobials/antibiotics were used?

N/A

b. Are these antimicrobials/antibiotics used to treat other infections?

N/A

Exemption: Section 12 (Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit):

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

(2) Subsection (1) does not exempt the public authority from its obligation to comply with paragraph (a) of section 1(1) unless the estimated cost of complying with that paragraph alone would exceed the appropriate limit.

(3) In subsections (1) and (2) “the appropriate limit” means such amount as may be prescribed, and different amounts may be prescribed in relation to different cases.

(4) The Secretary of State may by regulations provide that, in such circumstances as may be prescribed, where two or more requests for information are made to a public authority—
   (a) by one person, or
   (b) by different persons who appear to the public authority to be acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign, the estimated cost of complying with any of the requests is to be taken to be the estimated total cost of complying with all of them.

(5) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision for the purposes of this section as to the costs to be estimated and as to the manner in which they are to be estimated.

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