

Ref: FOI/2024/10335

Date Received: 26th November 2024

Response Due: 27th December 2024

Date: 27th December 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 26th November 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

Could you provide answers to the below questions for each hospital in your trust, please?

1. How many doses of each of the following strengths of Meropenem do you administer annually?

- **500mg** = 190.
- **1 gram** = 5,045.
- **2 grams** = 301.

2. What are the main areas of your hospital where Meropenem is used?

Meropenem is used in all areas of the hospital, including community hospital at home teams, when needed to treat appropriately indicated infections.

3. What are the main conditions you use Meropenem to treat?

- Aerobic and anaerobic Gram-positive and Gram-negative infections
- Hospital acquired septicaemia
- Exacerbations of chronic lower respiratory-tract infections in cystic fibrosis
- Meningitis
- Endocarditis

4. How do you currently administer Meropenem via bolus or infusion? If you infuse, do you use gravity or pump sets?

Short IV infusion. Normal practice is infusion via pump.

5. Where is your Meropenem currently reconstituted (e.g., wards or aseptic units)?

Wards. The Trust doesn't have an aseptic unit.

6. Do you face any challenges when administering Meropenem?

No.

7. Do you frequently experience drug shortages of Meropenem?

No.

8. How many medication errors do you experience per month when administering Meropenem?

There has only been 1 reported incident mentioning Meropenem in the 12 months from 09/12/2023 to 09/12/2024. This is 0.083 per month.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Gary Masterman
Deputy Chief Pharmacist

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111