

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4350

**Please reply to:**  
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Trust Management  
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Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

30 November 2017

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to missing or unaccounted for drugs.

*1/ Please state the quantity of controlled drugs that has gone missing or unaccounted for from Trust hospitals in each of the last three calendar years, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17?*

*• Please include a breakdown of types of drugs and locations from which they have gone missing*

*2/ Please state the quantity of prescription drugs that has gone missing or unaccounted for from Trust hospitals in each of the last three calendar years, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17?*

*• Please include a breakdown of types of drugs and locations from which they have gone missing*

*3/ Please state the monetary value of the missing or unaccounted for drugs, broken down by each of the last three calendar years 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17?*

*4/ Please state the number of cases referred to police and relevant professional regulators*

*5/ Please describe auditing procedures that take place relating to controlled and non-controlled medicines*

1/

Data from NHS England quarterly occurrence report provided by the Trust  
2014-2015

April –June 2014- 1 unaccounted loss

July-Sept 2014 report- 2 unaccounted losses

2015-16

Oct-Dec 2015- 1 unaccounted loss

JAN-Mar 2016- 1 unaccounted loss

2016-17

Oct-Dec 2016- 2 unaccounted losses

Jan-Mar 2017- 2 unaccounted loss

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April –June 2014- 2 x 10mg Oxycontin tablets from a ward location  
July-Sept 2014 report- 20ml oxycodone liquid from a ward location  
(cumulative on measuring) & 1x200mcg buprenorphine tablet from a ward  
Oct-Dec 2015- 1 x 100mcg fentanyl patch missing from box from a ward  
location  
Jan-Mar 2016- 1 x 52.2mcg buprenorphine patch from ward location  
Oct-Dec 2016- 1x50mg Morphine vial from pharmacy & 5 x 10mg ampoules of  
morphine from theatres (full investigation undertaken)  
Jan-Mar 2017- Oxynorm liquid (cumulative losses on measuring - bungs for  
containers introduced to minimise loss) & 1 fentanyl 100mcg patch from ward  
locations

2/

Real time stock tracking is not available in clinical areas therefore unable to provide this data

3/

Real time stock tracking is not available in clinical areas therefore unable to provide this data

4/

The quarterly reports were submitted to the Local Intelligence Network for NHS England South East

5/

On a daily basis, the ward/department manager is responsible for ensuring that the stock of Controlled Drugs is checked at least every 24 hours by two registered practitioners against the record in the Controlled Drug Register and that an entry confirming that check is made in the register.

The Pharmacy staff undertake stock audit and reconciliation of controlled drugs at least every 6 months (this can be more frequent e.g. to return expired stock from ward to pharmacy). A general Trust wide medicine security audit is conducted annually against set Trust standards. This audit frequency can be increased if necessary. All ward medicine trolleys are checked weekly by ward staff and pharmacy assistants do a rolling stock check for expiry dates on wards.

Medicines for disposal are placed in designated 'Pharmacy Returns Units' for safe storage on the ward prior to return to Pharmacy; except for controlled drugs (which are labelled and stored in the CD cupboard until the authorised removal by a Pharmacy staff) and re-usable fridge items.