

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4612

Please reply to:
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26 February 2019

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 Medical refrigeration.

You asked:

- 1. How many medical fridges are used throughout the Trust for the storage of vaccines and other temperature-sensitive items?*
- 2. Over the last 12 months approximately how much stock has the Trust had to dispose of due to refrigeration malfunctions or failures? How are staff alerted to potential problems, particularly when the fridges are unattended?*
- 3. Please describe the process in place to log temperatures and deal with any fluctuations in temperature (on a daily basis). How are the records stored and data retrieved when required?*
- 4. When is the Trust due to test the market regarding acquiring new, state of the art medical refrigeration units – next 6 months, next 12 months, 24 months?*

Trust response:

1. 100 devices Maidstone Hospital
105 devices Tunbridge Wells Hospital
2. None. The fridges have both audible and visual alarms; alarms are set at 2°C and 8°C. Staff perform daily monitoring of the Min/Max Temperatures recorded.

The Kelcius and Tutela systems are monitored and alerts sent to the on-call staff

3.
Pharmacy Department devices monitored via Kelsius System
Pathology Department devices monitored via Tutela System

All Ward devices monitored locally (manually) also the devices on the wards have a data chip in them so we can see if and how long they may have gone out of range which has reduced any wasted stock

4. Earliest 24 months.