

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5691

**Please reply to:**  
FOI Administrator  
Trust Management  
Maidstone Hospital  
Hermitage Lane  
Maidstone, Kent  
ME16 9QQ  
Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

24 September 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 Clinically assisted nutrition and hydration.

*You asked:*

- 1) *Please state the name of your Trust?*
- 2) *How many patients currently under your care are being kept alive with clinically assisted nutrition and hydration (CANH) who are in a persistent vegetative state or minimally conscious state?*
- 3)
  - a) *How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 1 year or more?*
  - b) *How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 3 years or more?*
  - c) *How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 5 years or more?*
- 4)
  - a) *How much money has your trust spend on the patients from Q2 in the years;*
    - 2015 - 2016
    - 2016 - 2017
    - 2017 - 2018
  - b) *How much money does your Trust spend per patient (from Q2) on average?*
- 5) *How many next of kin of patients from Q2 have asked for the CANH to be stopped and their loved ones be moved into palliative care?*
- 6)
  - a) *In how many patients cases, have you been in a legal battle, whether mediation or court, because next of kin wanted to stop CANH in the last 5 years?*
  - b) *What has been the financial cost of these legal battles/mediations?*

Trust response:

- 1) Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
- 2) We do not believe we have any patients currently being cared for as in patients who would be considered persistent vegetative state or minimally conscious state
- 3) Not applicable
- 4) Not applicable
- 5) This is not data we routinely collect.
- 6)
  - a) 2
  - b) £15,000