

Freedom of Information request 374-18

Request

We are part of a Multidisciplinary Team working at Birmingham Children's Hospital, dealing with processes around children who are medically complex (Children with medical complexities or CMiC). We define these as: children with a long term condition, lasting greater than 12 months and requiring input from 2 or more medical teams/specialities.

This group of children often have specialist feeding needs and many are technology dependent. In addition to this, they may also have unresolved housing, immigration and care package provision dilemmas. They may have extra family support needs due to parental capacity or illness. Co-ordinating clinical care for them can be a challenge.

We are currently doing a survey of all inpatient paediatric units, to look at how the problem varies nationally, and would like to ask you the following eight questions, as a freedom of information request, in line with The Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please find attached eight questions that we would appreciate your response to.

1. What is your paediatric inpatient occupancy, on your units (0-18yrs)?
2. How many of these would fit into the definition above?
3. How many long stay (>30days) paediatric patients do you have?
4. How many of these patients are medically fit to be discharged?
5. Amongst your long stay paediatric population, are there any non-medical barriers to discharge? If so what are the common reasons e.g. housing, care provider allocation, training or social care support?
6. Who coordinates discharge planning for "CMiC" patients and how are they set up to do this e.g. specialist paediatric discharge nurse, CNS, adult discharge teams, support workers?
7. Do you have any links with charities when doing this work e.g. charity funded nursing positions, collaboration with charity workers?
8. Do you have specific paperwork for long stay "CMiC" patients e.g. hospital passports, patient held records, advanced care plans?

Response

Please find below NHS Borders data as per request based on the current position as at 9 August 2018:

1. We are an 11 bedded inpatient ward (7 ward beds, 2 short stay assessment beds and 2 HDU beds).
2. On this date no patient fitted the above definition.
3. We currently have no long stay patients.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable as we currently have no long stay patients.
6. Discharge planning is coordinated by the ward team this includes patients individual consultant, member of nursing team, community childrens nurse, AHPs as appropriate, parents/carers and then school/Health visitor etc as appropriate. We do not have a specific discharge planning coordinator.

7. Depending on the patient's individual needs our community childrens nurses have links with various charities such as; Make a Wish, Family Fund, CHAS, New life who can support Children, Young people and their families if they have complex needs.
8. We do not have specific paperwork for long stay patients but some of our patients use hospital passports created by paediatric psychology team. We use paper records for patients and EMis electronic system for our children in the community.

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk.

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **374-18** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.