

FOI 3192

22nd July 2025**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

I require information regarding the prescribing of the category of medication collectively known as anticoagulants, whether administered by the oral or parenteral route in the Southern Health and Social Care Trust over the six years commencing 1st January 2018 and ending 31 December 2023 in those aged 0-44 years.

I require the information as the total number of prescriptions issued per quarter (three month period) in the specified years in those aged under 45 years on the date the prescription was issued.

Oral anticoagulants include but are not limited to warfarin, clopidrogel, dipyridamole, phenindione, aspirin, apixaban, edoxaban, rivaroxaban etc.

Parenteral anticoagulants include but are not limited to heparin, dalteparin, enoxaparin, tinzaparin, argatroban, bivalirudin, dabigatran, urokinase, acenocoumarol etc.

Response:

This information is not centrally held and would involve a manual trawl of notes to retrieve it.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Public Authorities are not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the cost limit.

Unfortunately we are unable to provide the information you have requested as the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. It has been estimated that it would take more than 18 hours to carry out a manual trawl of records, would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

In addition, it would not be appropriate to search through individual patient records for the purposes for responding to a FOI request, there would be no patient expectation that medical records would be used in this way.

Email: Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net