

FOI 3564

10<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

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**Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information that your organisation may hold regarding incidents of spiking managed and recorded by Craigavon Area Hospital and Daisy Hill Hospital.**

- 1. The number of recorded incidents of suspected spiking cases from October 2021 – September 2025, broken down by month where possible.**

**Response:**

This information is not recorded centrally, there is no code to record spiking and therefore retrieving it would involve a manual search of individual patient records. As such we cannot provide this information 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. To obtain this information from a number of individual patient 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.

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.

Furthermore, under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act, we can advise that it would require an extensive manual review of all admissions and A&E attendances just to ascertain if information relevant to your request is held. As such, we advise that there is no way to refine this request to bring it within the appropriate limit.

- 2. Where available, provide a breakdown of the information, such as grouped data or percentages:**
  - 1. Type of spiking methods – needling, drink spiking, food spiking, vape spiking and any other means**
  - 2. Gender – Male, Female, Non-binary, Not disclosed, Other**

**3. Age group of individuals at the time of alleged spiking –**

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- below 18
- 18 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 and above

**4. Setting/location type where spiking took place (bar, nightclub, private residence, university accommodation, others)**

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**3. Copies of or link to any guidance, protocols, or policies your organisation has for responding to suspected spiking incidents.**

**Response:**

The Trust does not have a policy. Patients are managed supportively. The attached RCEM spiking document provides guidance to the Emergency Departments.

[RCEM Spiking Position Statement July 2022.pdf](#)

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