

16 March 2022

Information Rights & Compliance Team
99 Waverley Road
St Albans
Hertfordshire
AL3 5TL

Tel: 01727 804954
Email: Hpkt.foi@nhs.net

Our Ref: FOI/04282

Thank you for your request concerning Prescriptions For Sleeping Pills.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

1. **How many prescriptions for sleeping pills did you give out in 2021, 2020, 2019,2018 and 2017?**
2. **Could you please break this down by the name of the drug**

	Zolpidem	Zopiclone	Zaleplone
	Prescriptions Issued	Prescriptions Issued	Prescriptions Issued
2017	170	1,533	0
2018	208	1,639	0
2019	195	1,472	0
2020	195	1,406	0
2021	182	1,484	0

3. **How much did this cost in total each year?**

	Total Cost £
2017	1,043.39
2018	971.66
2019	973.21
2020	1,236.55
2021	1,192.59

4. **If possible, could you please break down the age of patients that received the prescriptions, either exact ages or in age groups (eg xx number of prescriptions given to 16-24 year olds)**

It is not possible to provide this information because this is not recorded in a reportable manner. In order to provide you with this information would involve manually going through every single service users record and this will invoke S12 - cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

In addition, we do not believe reading through individuals medical records for the purpose of a FOI request would be in line with the GDPR Data Protection Principles or the Caldicott Principles.

Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust's complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

Sue Smith

Sue Smith
Information Rights Officer

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click [here](#).

