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Our ref: 2641

12 February 2015

Freedom of information request

I am writing in response to your request for information which has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your questions and our responses are shown below:

1. I would be grateful if you could, in respect of the past five years, provide me with the number of nurses in your Trust, broken down by qualification category, that are employed as NMPs.

New Independent prescribers registered:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Nurse	0	1	1	1	2
Pharmacist	0	0	0	1	1

2. If possible, I would like to have the details of the number of items they have prescribed - including BNF chapters - for each month or each quarter in that period.

*We are unable to provide the number of items they have prescribed as this information is not recorded. The Trust does not hold the information you requested in a format that is easily retrievable. To provide answers to your questions would involve a manual search through patients notes which is expected to take longer than the appropriate limit. Section 12 of FOIA states that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request where the cost of doing so would exceed the appropriate limit, which for hospital trusts is £450. We are declining to comply with your requests on the grounds that the cost of doing so would exceed the appropriate limit.

3. I would also like to know if there are any on-site pharmacies within your Trust and, if so, the number of pharmacist prescribers within them and the items prescribed over the five year period referred to above. We have on-site

Pharmacists at East Surrey and Crawley Hospitals. There are now three Pharmacist Independent Prescribers. *Please see note above.