

Date: 02/12/2014

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Ref: FOI/012014

With reference to your FOI request in connection with 'Aseptic Units' please see response below.

Please could you answer the following questions regarding aseptic drug compounding/preparation:

1. How much does you aseptic unit cost to run annually?

Where a public authority is purchasing goods or services there is a public interest in ensuring it gets value for money.

This is particularly relevant at a time when there is a public debate around the increasing role private companies have in delivering public services.

There is a public interest in ensuring that companies are able to compete fairly. There is also a public interest in ensuring that there is competition for public sector contracts.

In considering the release of this information, The Trust has taken these issues into account and under section 43 of the Freedom of Information Action deems this information commercially sensitive.

2. How many aseptically prepared units do produce annually?

Approximately 30,000 units per year (68,000 Adjusted Value Units per year)

3. What types of aseptically prepared products does you aseptic unit produce? E.g. parenteral nutrition, antibiotics, cancer chemotherapy.

Systemic anticancer therapies and some non-cancer therapies

4. In the aseptic compounding process, how many consumable products to you use annually? E.g. the number of syringes or IV bags used.

The aseptic unit utilises over 50 consumable lines and deemed commercially sensitive information

5. How many staff do you employ in your aseptic department?

Approximately 3 pharmacists, 5.5 pharmacy technicians, 4 assistant technical officers

6. How many full time equivalents are dedicated to aseptic compounding?

Approximately 2 pharmacists, 4.5 pharmacy technicians, 3 assistant technical officers

7. How many clean rooms do you have in your aseptic department

Two

8. How many isolator cabinets do you have in your aseptic department? How often do they need maintenance?

7 isolators. Each serviced every 6 months

9. Do you outsource or is all of you aseptic compounding carried out in-house? If so, by whom?

The majority of compounding is undertaken in house. Low level ready to use treatments procured to aid dose banding work. Outsourced products are procured via regional contract that has reviewed safety of use, quality of the product and costs. Suppliers that the Trust uses are licensed manufacturing units e.g. ITH Pharma, Hospira, Baxter, Qualasept