

12 September 2018

Our Ref: RFI 24674

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Electroconvulsive Therapy**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to the above which you requested on 14 August 2018.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Adult Services and Prison Healthcare Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

If you are unhappy as to how this request has been handled, you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. You should write to the Information Governance Department, Lough House, Ards Community Hospital (informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net) within two months of the date of this response and your complaint will be considered and a response provided, within 20 working days of receipt.

If, after receiving a response, you remain unhappy, you can refer your complaint to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. It is important to note that if you refer any matter to the Information Commissioner, you will need to show evidence of having gone through the Trust's internal review procedure to try to resolve the matter with the Trust in the first instance.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

**Catherine Treanor
Information Governance Assistant**

Under freedom of information legislation, I am seeking the following information, all in relation to Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT):

Q1. How many people have received ECT through your trust in the last 2 years?

A1. 38 individual patients have received ECT in the last 2 years.

Q2. What is the age of the youngest person to have been given ECT through your trust in the last 2 years?

A2. The youngest person to receive ECT was aged between 30 and 35 years old.

Q3. What is the age of the oldest person to have been given ECT through your trust in the last 2 years?

A3. The oldest person to receive ECT was aged between 85 and 90 years old.

Q4. How much does it cost your trust to offer ECT to one person in standard blocks of therapy, such as 10 rounds of being given ECT? A current rate/cost today.

A4. This information is not centrally recorded.

Q5. How much does it cost your trust to offer psychotherapy to one person in standard blocks of therapy, such as 10 sessions of psychotherapy? A current rate/cost today.

A5. This information is not centrally recorded.

Q6. How many patients in the last 2 years receiving treatment of ECT through your trust have been given rehabilitation for their brain injuries induced by the ECT?

A6. There were no recorded incidences of brain injuries sustained as a result of ECT.

Q7. How many patients within the last two years have reported memory loss after undergoing ECT?

A7. A review of electronic patient records was carried out on those who received ECT within the last two years. Of the records reviewed, 27 patients subjectively reported experiencing some degree of memory loss in the immediate period post ECT.

Q8. *What cognitive function testing does the trust advocate and carry out on ECT patients and with what frequency?*

A8. Patients who undergo ECT within the Trust undergo a range of cognitive function tests both pre and post procedure. All patients receive a Capacity Assessment and have a Clinical Global Impression Rating Scale completed within a period of 24 hours prior to their first treatment.

Each patient in receipt of ECT has a standardised pre-ECT cognitive checklist carried out on the day of treatment, before the procedure is undertaken. This is followed up by the administration of a post-ECT cognitive checklist that is carried out within 24 hours of treatment. Each of these cognitive tests is carried out before and after each administered ECT session.