

<b>File reference</b>	W16FOI403
<b>Key words</b>	Medicines - Prescription of Benzodiazepines
<b>Date of release</b>	05/12/2016
<b>Attachments</b>	No

## **Freedom of Information Act Disclosure log - Reply Extract**

**You asked**

### **Prescription of Benzodiazepines (class of psychoactive drugs)**

**How many patients were given any form of benzodiazepines during treatment in hospital? Please provide broken-down figures (if possible) for up to the past five years and at least for the past 3 years**

Records of which patients are administered benzodiazepines is maintained in their medical notes. There is no centralised system for recording this information at present – it is therefore not possible to answer the question posed.

The Trust does monitor the overall use of benzodiazepines in order to identify potential diversion, changes in prescribing patterns and / or any potential overuse in clinical areas.

**Attachments included:** No

### **Legal notes**

Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust is confirming in accordance with section 1 (a) of the Act that it does not hold the information requested in any accessible format within the limitations specified in the Act. The Trust could not locate, extract and collate the information requested within the limitations of the Act (18 hours). We therefore consider it exempt from supply in accordance with section 12(2) of the Act – Request exceeds the appropriate limit by virtue of section 13-(1)(a) – The Cost of Compliance exceeds the appropriate limit. The Trust maintains over one million sets of clinical records and it would take an average of 45 minutes to read each record.