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19th January 2021

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 210113.

You requested the following information, please also see our response below:

This is a Freedom of Information request regarding your services policies and procedures when sepsis is identified by a PES crew.

- 1. Please enter the full name of your Ambulance Service.**
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
- 2. Do your Paramedic Emergency Service (PES) currently use a 'Sepsis' screening tool when treating patients? If yes, what is it?**
Yes. One for adults and one for children between 5 and 11
- 3. What is your services current treatment protocol when sepsis is identified by a Paramedic Emergency Service (PES) crew. Including pre-alerts to receiving units and specialist pathway activations.**
Care and intervention is provided according to the nationally published guidance in the Joint Royal College Ambulance Liaison Committee (JRCALC) clinical practice guidelines which are based on the UK Sepsis Trust guidance. Triggers for use of a sepsis screening tool are a NEWS2 score of 5 (or 3 or more in a single component) or clinician or care-giver concern. Pre-alerting to ED is based on the clinical assessment of the patient, the early warning score and locally defined protocol where applicable.
- 4. Has the Ambulance Service named in question 1 taken part in any form of 'Prehospital Sepsis Diagnosis and Treatment' trials?**
Yes
- 5. If you have answered 'Yes' or 'Currently undergoing trials' to question No. 4, please name the trial and if applicable, its outcome.**
One small scale trial in one county relating to neutropenic sepsis several years ago. No longer running.

6. Does the Ambulance Service named in question 1 currently take blood cultures in red flag sepsis situations?

No

7. Does the Ambulance Service named in question 1 currently administer broad-spectrum antibiotics in red flag sepsis situations?

No

8. Does the Ambulance Service named in question 1 currently use lactate monitoring for sepsis identification?

No

I hope you find this information of some assistance.

If for any reason you are dissatisfied with our response, kindly in the first instance contact Caroline Smart, Head of Information Governance via the following email address:

FOI@secamb.nhs.uk

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Coordinator
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust