



Trust Headquarters  
Nexus House  
Gatwick Road  
Crawley  
West Sussex  
RH10 9BG

15<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Email:

Dear,

**Tel: 0300 123 0999**  
**[www.secamb.nhs.uk](http://www.secamb.nhs.uk)**

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 210301.

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

**I am looking for information with regards to the legal frameworks relied upon in your service to carry, dispense and administer POMs.**

In a CQC report "British Red Cross Society, British Red Cross, Birmingham" Date of inspection visit: 26 March and 5 June 2019, Date of publication: 25/10/2019 the CQC stated that. --" non-healthcare professionals carried prescription only medication, including salbutamol inhalers, salbutamol nebulisers and glycerol trinitrate (GTN) spray" and "The Human Medicines Regulations 2012 state that prescription only medication (POM) can be administered by any person providing that medication has been specifically prescribed for the individual."

1. **Do your non-prescriber staff routinely carry, dispense and administer POMs.**  
Non-prescriber staff (using the definition you have provided) routinely carry and administer POMs. These staff hold specific Patient Group Directions (PGDs) within the Trust policy. We do not dispense medications; however some medicines are supplied under PGDs.
2. **For each administration of a POM by your non-prescriber staff has that medication has been specifically prescribed for the individual.**  
No, Medication is administered under Patient Group Directions (PGDs) or legal exemption depending on which grade of staff is administering the medicine (Human Medicines Regulations Schedule 17 and 19). For some non-prescription only medicines (pharmacy items, general sales list), administration protocols are used.
3. **Has the CQC previously raised the issue of POM medication being administered having not been "specifically prescribed for the individual" to you in any previous inspection?**  
No

- a. **Can you provide any details of this, time frame, report title, response etc.**  
N/A
4. **Do you have non-healthcare professionals whom respond on behalf of your service whom carry, dispense and administer POMs?**  
We do not dispense medications. Non-healthcare professionals (e.g. Community First Responder Volunteers) administer salbutamol if the patient has already been prescribed it.  
Non-healthcare professionals are able to administer schedule 19 Medicinal products for parenteral administration in an emergency (regulation 238) where trained and deemed competent to do so.
- a. **Can you clarify what medication these non-healthcare professionals carry?**  
See answer above.
- b. **Can you confirm the legal framework replied upon for these medicines to be administered (by medication name, class, GSL, P, POM and form parenteral / non- parenteral)?**  
Parenteral medicines excepted as per schedule 19 and described above  
Salbutamol NEB POM, Trust protocol with authorisation by the Trust Board supported with training and audit and underpinned by Trust Medicines Policy.

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](mailto:FOI@secamb.nhs.uk)

Yours sincerely

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