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BN7 2XW

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4th February 2015

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/15/01/17.

You requested the following information:

1. Were there any formal or informal changes introduced in 2014 over which patients calling 999 should receive a Red 1, Red 2 or green response?

2. If yes, what was the new criteria introduced and which patients were affected?

No we have not made any such changes.

With regards to proposed national changes, we are supportive of any move which helps to better determine the right response to our patients. We have been involved in ongoing discussions on this matter and we will continue to work to develop a system which improves for the benefit of patients and prioritises the relatively small percentage of patients in serious and life-threatening conditions.

3. How many Red 1 calls were downgraded to Red 2 or Green last year, or the most recent year for which data is available?

4. How many Red 2 calls were downgraded to green last year, or for the most recent year (or six month period if more applicable) that data is available?

5. What percentage of Red 1, Red 2 and green calls these represent?

6. If you have calculated how many deaths occurred as a result of a downgrade and how many of these deaths were expected?

7. Do you know how many of these downgrades were made in order to hit ambulance response time targets?

As we have not made any changes, these questions do not apply to our Trust.

I hope you find this information helpful.

If, for whatever reason you are unhappy with our response, you are entitled to pursue any dissatisfaction through South East Coast Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust's (SECAMB) Internal Review Procedure at:

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
40-42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW
Email: complaints@secamb.nhs.uk

Should you remain unhappy with the outcome of any such internal review, you may request a decision from the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me, quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

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