



40/42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW

foi@secamb.nhs.uk

1st November 2016

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/16/10/15.

You requested the following information:

Please could you answer the following questions?

How many clinical errors/serious clinical incidents have been made by:

**IHCD Technicians
IHCD Paramedics
Degree Paramedics**

in the past 5 years?

We do not record our Serious Incidents by grade of staff however I can confirm that there has been a total of 207 serious incidents recorded over the past five financial years as shown in the table below. Please note that these figures include all serious incidents relating to A & E (999), Patient Transport Services and with effect from March 2013 NHS111.

Financial Year	Number of Serious Incidents reported
2011/2012	22
2012/2013	31
2013/2014	44
2014/2015	54
2015/2016	56
TOTAL	207

Are your technicians permitted to autonomously discharge on scene?

We don't encourage autonomous discharge for any grade of staff, and promote the use of shared decision making. We do make provision for Technicians to discharge in certain very low-acuity situations, and this is covered in the Scope of Practice & Clinical Standards Policy;

1.1.1. Discharge can be undertaken without support where the patient has a clearly self-limiting condition requiring only simple advice or self-care treatments (i.e. low mechanism slip from chair, broken fingernail) and with no Red Flags (see Urgent Care Handbook for examples).

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

