



South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS  
Foundation Trust  
Nexus House  
Gatwick Road  
Crawley  
RH10 9BG

Date 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017

Email:

Email: [foi@secamb.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@secamb.nhs.uk)

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/17/11/14.

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

**Regarding the use of antibiotics in the pre-hospital setting to treat sepsis A colleague informed me of a trial that was carried out in the Brighton area around four years ago which involved paramedics carrying broad-spectrum antibiotics for this purpose. I was wondering if you had information on this study or knew where I could find it?**

There was a small trial undertaken in Brighton, but this was specific to neutropenic sepsis, rather than generalised sepsis. The trial concluded that the numbers of patients in scope for this intervention was very low. Moreover, the use of broad spectrum antibiotics is under ever increasing scrutiny due to the need for vigilance in response to the issue of antimicrobial resistance. Therefore, the treatment was not rolled out following the end of the evaluation.

The trial was undertaken locally in collaboration with the Oncology Team at Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust, and the results were not published.

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, Information Governance Manager 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