



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

Date 21st December 2017

Email: foi@secamb.nhs.uk

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/17/11/37.

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

Over the period 01/01/16 to 01/01/17 how many patients did you treat with epilepsy who were having a seizure

We had 18427 incident categorised as 'fitting' in the timeframe specified. However, we are unable to ascertain how many patients were treated on each incident (as there may have been more than one patient at each incident), or if patient(s) were diagnosed as having epilepsy

Please note that the problem nature is determined by the call taker, and not a diagnosis, what was found when a crew arrived on scene or what the patient was treated for if conveyed to hospital.

Over the period 01/01/16 to 01/01/17 how many patients did you administer Diazepam to

Please see figures below on how much Diazepam we used during the time period specified. However, we would be unable to advise how many patients this was administered to.

****Please note that oral doses are not used for the treatment of epilepsy (Diazepam 2mg tablets)***

| | Total |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Diazepam 2mg Tablets | 216 |
| Diazepam 10mg/2.5ml Rectal | 2 |
| Diazepam 5mg/2.5ml Rectal | 564 |
| Diazepam 2.5mg/1.25ml Rectal | 63 |
| Diazemuls | 496* |

****Please note this is only an indicative figure***

Over the period 01/01/16 to 01/01/17 how many patients did you treat with epilepsy and conveyed to hospital who were having a seizure

We had 11334 incident categorised as 'fitting' in the timeframe specified which were subsequently conveyed to hospital. As stated above, we are unable to ascertain how many patients were treated on each incident (as there may have been more than one patient at each incident), or if patient(s) were diagnosed as having epilepsy

Please note that the problem nature is determined by the call taker, and not a diagnosis, what was found when a crew arrived on scene or what the patient was treated for if conveyed to hospital.

What is the benzodiazepines of choice in your trust for treatment of epileptic seizures?

All paramedics can use Diazepam for the management of seizure – both in parenteral form and as a rectal presentation. Also, Critical Care Paramedics can give Midazolam and Phenytoin for seizures

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

Yours sincerely

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