

Date 16/05/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 10007

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
Extension 35687
Direct Line 0131 465 5687
loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot
richard.mutch@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – IV MORPHINE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to IV morphine prescribing.

Question:

1. Please can you confirm the emergency departments (ED) within your trust - both their name and address:
2. In each of your EDs are your registered nurses (RN) allowed to give intravenous (IV) morphine.
3. In each of your EDs are your registered nurses allowed to give intravenous (IV) diamorphine.
4. In each of your EDs are your registered nurses allowed to give intravenous (IV) fentanyl.
5. If RNs are allowed to give either IV Morphine, IV Diamorphine or IV Fentanyl - did they undertake a specific drug training package?
6. If so which drug, was it for? Would you be able to share this training package.
7. If they are not allowed to give IV Morphine, IV Diamorphine or IV Fentanyl who is allowed to give each of the drugs?
8. For each of the drugs are there any specific areas where the drugs can only be given with in the ED?

Answer:

1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency Department, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, 51 Little France Crescent, Edinburgh, EH16 4SA. St Johns Hospital, Howden Road West, Howden, Livingston, West Lothian, EH54 6PP. Royal Hospital for Children and Young People, 50 Little France Crescent, Edinburgh bio Quarter, Edinburgh, EH16 4TJ. https://www.nhsllothian.scot/goingtohospital/
2.	Yes
3.	Yes
4.	Yes
5.	All IV training for RGNs is provided by NHS Lothian as part of the mandatory IV Administration Training and they follow the NHS Lothian IV Guide (please see attached).

Headquarters
Mainpoint
102 West Port
Edinburgh EH3 9DN

Chair Professor John Connaghan CBE
Chief Executive Professor Caroline Hiscox
Lothian NHS Board is the common name of Lothian Health Board

	All staff must complete non-medical prescribing courses successfully and that these courses and curricula are available via their university websites; we do not hold any training packages locally that we can share.
6.	Not applicable
7.	Not applicable
8.	These drugs can be given within all areas of the emergency department if required, and within the acute hospital

1.9.1.3 The administration of Schedule 2 CDs within secondary care should be done via two person administration process. Any departure from the double-check process should be considered exceptional and carry with it a specific risk assessment to support this practice.

1.9.1.4 Administration involving Schedule 2 CDs must be witnessed, except in circumstances where it is not possible, for example, administration takes place in the patient's home, or where it is not feasible for operational reasons, for example, in theatres. In such circumstances, a risk assessment must be undertaken, and the action taken to minimise the risk must be documented. This risk assessment for hospital specialities must be approved by the Clinical Director for the service (for doctors) and the Clinical Nurse Manager (for nurses) and be submitted to the Medicines Policy Subcommittee for review. The chair of the Medicines Policy Subcommittee will present the document to the Area Drug and Therapeutics committee for final approval.

1.9.1.5 For the administration of Schedule 2 CDs, one of the practitioners must be a registered nurse, midwife or ODP. The administration must be witnessed by a registered professional who is authorised to administer the medicine.

[Practitioners authorised to administer medicines](#)

[Administration of medicines in hospital and NHS Lothian Healthcare Premises Procedure.pdf](#)

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of receipt of our review response. You can do this by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office online appeals service at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal. If you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner's response you then have the option to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the FOI Reviewer at the email address at the head of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian's Freedom of Information website at: <https://org.nhsllothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive
Enc.