FOI 3432

Date 19/11/2024

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request. Please note, this is a cross-site response for Bedford site and Luton site.

You asked:

Please may you provide me with answers to the following:

1. Does your Trust use an Inventory Management System (IMS)?

No

1. If ‘Yes,' which company supplies this?
2. If ‘No, do you have plans to procure an IMS within the next three years?

Yes

If the answer to Question 1 was yes, then:

1. Which company supplies the IMS?
2. When was this system implemented?
3. When was the most recent upgrade or change?
4. Did you procure this system independently, through NHS Supply Chain, or through some other route (please specify)?
5. Did the Trust use a different IMS prior to the current one? If so, please specify the previous system(s) and how long were they used for?
6. What are the key differences between the current IMS and any previous IMS in terms of functionality, ease of use, and integration with other Trust systems?
7. Does the current system manage the following:
   1. High-cost implants (e.g., cardiac pacemakers, hip and knee replacements, spinal fusion devices)
   2. Consumables (e.g., scalpels, blood vials, swabs)
   3. Human tissue (e.g., corneal tissue, skin grafts, bone grafts, heart valves)
   4. Other (please specify)
8. Does your IMS integrate with other Trust software (e.g., EPR, procurement platforms)? If yes, which?
9. What primary benefits has the Trust observed with the current IMS (e.g., cost savings, efficiency gains, regulatory compliance)?
10. Do you believe that you are receiving/expect to have received by the contract end good return on investment from this IMS?
11. What are the main challenges or limitations experienced with the system?
12. Does the Trust have plans to upgrade or replace the IMS within the next three years?
13. What new capabilities/improvements/features would be a priority in future IMS procurement (e.g., enhanced traceability, asset or human tissue tracking)?
14. Who is the best person within the Trust to speak to about IMS systems?

If the answer to Question 1 was no, then:

1. Do you have plans to procure an IMS within the next three years?

Yes

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If you are not satisfied with the Trust review under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Officer (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. The ICO can be contacted at: ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

*FOI Officer*

Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust