

30th April 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information request regarding Hospital admissions and dog bites.

The Trust can provide the following information:

The Trust's patient information systems are monitored on an ongoing basis to identify any potential inappropriate access to our acute Electronic Patient Record and community RIO system.

The Trust uses an application called Fairwarning to proactively monitor inappropriate access. This means that the system generates automated reports that indicates unauthorised access to specific records has potentially taken place.

These reports are investigated and where unauthorised access has taken place, the member of staff's line manager is informed of the incident, where it is then fully investigated.

In addition, if a particular concern is raised by a manager that unauthorised access to a patient's record has occurred, we can use specific audit tools built into our patient information systems to identify who accessed a particular record and when.

Most patients also have what is known as a Summary Care Record which is held on a national database and includes information around a patient's current medication, known allergies and any contra indications. Any member of staff who accesses this central record must have a legitimate reason for viewing the record. If they don't a legitimate reason, an alert is generated and the Data Privacy Officer notified, who is then require to investigate the incident.

In addition to the above, the Trust has a number of policies and procedures in place making clear to staff that any unauthorised access to a patient record is a disciplinary offence and is viewed as gross misconduct.

If you have any queries about this response please contact the information governance manager at foi@homerton.nhs.uk , in the first instance. If, following that, you still have any concerns, you may contact the Information Commissioner either by letter, FOI/EIR Complaints resolution, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SM9 5AF, or by email www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk to take them further.

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Yours sincerely

Mike Dunne
Information Governance Manager/Deputy Calidcott Guardian