

Freedom of Information Act 2000

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request

Date Request Received: 13th June 2025

FOI Ref No 29179

Requested Information:

1. For each centre within your trust that provides neonatal care, please answer:
 - a. How many funded neonatal intensive care unit (ICU), neonatal high dependency unit (HDU) and special care baby unit (SCBU) cots are there?
 - b. Does the centre have access to a senior pharmacist practising in neonatology at Agenda for Change (AFC) Band 8a or equivalent as a minimum?
 - c. Does the centre have access to a senior pharmacist with experience in the provision of parenteral nutrition, where necessary?
 - d. Do pharmacists working in neonatal care attend daily multidisciplinary ward rounds?
 - e. How many pharmacists (whole time equivalent) working in neonatal care are active independent prescribers?
 - f. Does the centre have access to medicines via the hospital dispensary 7 days a week, with regular stock top ups in accordance with demand, but no less than once a week?
 - g. Does the centre have 5 day access to an aseptic and CIVA service where this is needed to provide bespoke parenteral nutrition or where there is substantial use of high risk intravenous medications?
 - h. Does the centre provide a five day or seven day neonatal service? If this varies for different beds, please answer the below separately for each service.
 - i. How many clinical pharmacists work in neonatal care (whole time equivalent), and at what AfC band?
 - ii. How many ward-based pharmacy technicians work in the neonatal care (whole time equivalent)?
2. Does your trust have a paediatric critical care unit? For each paediatric critical care unit within your trust, please answer:
 - a. How many funded paediatric level 2 and level 3 critical care beds are in the unit?
 - b. Does the unit have access to a senior pharmacist practising in paediatric critical care, funded at Agenda for Change (AFC) Band 8a or equivalent as a minimum?
 - c. Do pharmacists working in paediatric critical care attend daily multidisciplinary ward rounds?
 - d. How many pharmacists (whole time equivalent) in the unit are active independent prescribers?

- e. Does the unit have access to medicines via the hospital dispensary 7 days a week, with regular stock top ups in accordance with demand, but no less than once a week?
- f. Does the unit provide a five day or seven day service? If this varies for different beds, please answer the below separately for each service.
 - i. How many clinical pharmacists work in paediatric critical care (whole time equivalent), and at what AfC band?
 - ii. How many ward-based pharmacy technicians work in the unit (whole time equivalent)?

Response:

1. For each centre within your trust that provides neonatal care, please answer:
 - a. There are - 4 HDU cots, 3 ITU cots and 13 Special Care cots
 - b. Yes
 - c. Yes, via Bristol Royal Hospital for Children
 - d. No
 - e. 0.5 WTE
 - f. Yes
 - g. No
 - h. 5 Day
 - i. Band 7 – 1.5 WTE
Band 8a – 0.6 WTE
Please note that these pharmacists also cover paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology. They are not dedicated to neonatal care.
 - ii. Nil
2. Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust (RCHT) does not have a Paediatric Critical Care Unit. The following questions can therefore not be answered.
 - a. N/A
 - b. N/A
 - c. N/A
 - d. N/A
 - e. N/A
 - f. N/A
 - g. N/A
 - h. N/A

Attachment(s):

No Attachment(s)

Date Response sent: 26th June 2025