

Reference Number: FOI202324/549
From: Press/Media
Date: 07 March 2024
Subject: Physician Associates and incidents

- Q1** According to your records, in the financial years 2022/23 and 23/24 (as of 07.03.24), on how many occasions did either a Physician Associate or Anaesthesia Associate prescribe/attempt to prescribe medication to a patient at your trust? Please provide a breakdown by year.
- A1** Only staff members with a medical or non-medical qualification are permitted to prescribe any medications. This is following confirmation of qualification to the trust. Physician Associates have not and do not prescribe any medications to any patients. Information not held for Anaesthesia Associates as this role does not exist at the Trust.
- Q2** According to your records, in the financial years 2022/23 and 23/24 (as of 07.03.24), on how many occasions did either a Physician Associate or Anaesthesia Associate request a scan that involves ionising radiation for a patient at your trust? Please provide a breakdown by year
- A2** Scans involving ionising radiation can only be requested by appropriately trained Ionising Radiation Medical Exposure Regulation (IRMER) Practitioners. Physician Associates are not IRMER trained practitioners and therefore have not and will not request any type of these scans. Information not held for Anaesthesia Associates as this role does not exist at the Trust.
- Q3** If it does not exceed the cost threshold, in the financial years 2022/23 and 23/24 (as of 07.03.24), how many incidents were recorded on Datix (or equivalent system) relating to the actions Physician Associates or Anaesthesia Associates? Please provide a breakdown by year.
- A3** Information not held – the Trust does not routinely collate or hold this information centrally as part of its management or performance data. The Trust does not hold a breakdown of incidents based on the role of the individual involved.