

## Freedom of Information Request

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Reference Number: [EPUT.FOI.24.3702](#)

Date Received: 29/08/2024

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### Information Requested:

I write to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the toxicological screening procedures for individuals who present themselves to Accident and Emergency (A&E) departments and identify themselves as individuals who believe they might have been administered a substance without their consent.

To aid your understanding, this request pertains to procedures, information, testing, and advice, offered to those who would colloquially be referred to as individuals who believe they might have been “drugged” or “roofied”.

Specifically, I would like to request the following information: [Essex Partnership University Foundation Trust is a mental health, community and learning disability services Trust as such does not have an A&E department.](#)

### Procedures for Toxicological Screening:

- 1.
2. What are the standard procedures for conducting screenings for individuals who believe they might have been
3. administered a substance without their consent upon presenting to A&E?
- 4.
- 5.
6. Are there specific protocols for these situations, and if so, what are they?
- 7.

If there is a document, flow chart or any other materials, pertaining to these procedures, please can these be attached to your reply.

### Information Provided to Patients:

- 3.

4. What information is given to patients regarding the utility and limitations of testing conducted in your A&E
5. setting, including the context of potential law enforcement or justice processes, if any?
  - 6.
  - 7.
  8. Does this information make clear whether or not tests conducted in A&E are admissible in court? If so, what
  9. does it state?
    - 10.
    - 11.
  12. What advice or support is provided to individuals during and after the screening process?
    - 13.
    - 14.
  15. Are there any follow-up procedures or referrals to other support services offered to these individuals?
    - 16.

If there is a document, flow chart or any other materials, provided to patients, please can these be attached to your reply.

Scope of Toxicological Testing:

- 7.
8. What is the scope of screening conducted in your A&E? If available, what type of testing is used.
  - 9.
  - 10.
11. Are any specific drugs or substances prioritised or given special attention during these screenings?
  - 12.

Training:

- 9.
10. Have A&E staff had specific and dedicated training about spiking? If so, please provide details of this training.

**Publication Scheme:**

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT's Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link

<https://eput.nhs.uk>