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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_508_25

Clarification provided from requester 12/11:

I would be very grateful if we could make an amendment to Question 3; we should have given a timescale, please accept my apologies.

Question 3 should read:

3-How many, or what percentage, of clinical staff at all your hospitals have completed sepsis awareness training, for years 2023/24 and 24/25?

You asked:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

1 - Do you follow the NICE NG 51 Guideline – incorporating Sepsis 6, NEWS 2 and other similar scores for other patient populations - in assessing for Sepsis at all your hospitals?

For Pregnant Women our Hospitals use the newly introduced Maternity Early Warning Score (MEWS) to recognise and escalate patients with Acute Deterioration. Our Hospitals have used the Welsh Maternity Network Sepsis Screening guidance for the last 7 years.

The treatment for positive cases of sepsis is the Sepsis 6 bundle

The Welsh Maternity Network is in the process of reviewing its sepsis guidance following the publication of NICE NG51 and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Green Top Guidance GTG64 on Sepsis.

For Paediatric patients and Neonates we have introduced the PEWS (Paediatric Early Warning Score) and NEWTT2 (Newborn Early Warning Track and Trigger Tool) to recognise and escalate Acute Deterioration.

Paediatrics utilise a Sepsis Screening Tool Adapted from the Paediatric Sepsis 6 GOSH guidelines in collaboration with the UK Sepsis Trust Paediatric Group.

We are not aware if the Welsh Child Health Network has any plans to standardise national guidance in Wales in alignment with NG51.

All acute and community hospitals within the Health Board have introduced the National Early Warning Score 2 (NEWS2) as part of the recognition and escalation process for Adult acute deterioration, in line with national policy across NHS Wales.

The CTM Adult sepsis screening tool is aligned with the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges document which influenced the recent NICE NG51 sepsis guideline.

The treatment for positive cases of sepsis is the Sepsis 6 bundle

Plans are in place to review this tool in line with NG51 with a view to improve it further.

2- Is sepsis awareness training mandatory and completion audit undertaken for all clinical staff at all your hospitals?

Sepsis awareness and recognition are not incorporated within mandatory training modules.

3- How many, or what percentage, of clinical staff at all your hospitals have completed sepsis awareness training, for years 2023/24 and 24/25?

The Health Board does not collect this data for “sepsis awareness” training alone. Sepsis awareness training is incorporated within broader Acute Deterioration patient training but, as per previous question, this is not mandatory.

CTMUHB is reviewing training in Sepsis Awareness as part of its Sepsis and Deterioration Quality Improvement Programme.

4- Is Sepsis safety netting mandatory at all your hospitals?

Sepsis safety-netting is not mandatory in CTMUHB. However, each Adult and Paediatric assessment unit has safety-netting information for their discharges. As part of our Sepsis review, we will recommend a standardised approach to safety netting and audit its utilisation.

5 – Do you have Martha’s Rule or equivalent – Martha's Rule being a well-advertised escalation pathway for both staff and patients/families/carers, to ask for a review from a different team if they are concerned that a patient is deteriorating – at all your hospitals?

“Martha’s Rule” is an initiative in NHS England.

The Welsh Government has taken the principles underpinning Martha’s Rule and launched the Call 4 Concern (C4C) project coordinated by the Acute Physical Deterioration Implementation group.

CTMUHB are fully engaged in this and up-to-date with project milestones. We have an active Patient and Family Initiated Concern group. We have a fully staffed 24/7 Critical Care Outreach team on each of our 3 hospitals. The first pilot phase for C4C has already been introduced in one of our Hospitals.