FOI 0133/2023 Response

Request

I'm a researcher at the University of Bath. Over the last few years, we've been investigating medication errors linked to difficulties finding and understanding information in clinical guidelines, and developing tools avoid these problems. We've shown that we can reduce medication errors and save staff time, so we are now finding out how best to roll out our approaches more widely in the NHS.

To do this, we need a better understanding of how clinical guidelines are developed, reviewed, approved and updated in the NHS. I'm therefore emailing to ask if you would be able to send us a copy of your organisation's policy for developing, approving, reviewing and/or approving clinical guidelines. We will store these confidentially and analyse them to understand the different processes used across the NHS. We will not share them with anyone outside our research team, or identify organisations who supply policies.

Response

The Trust is unable to provide the requested information.

This is because the Trust's Policy for Policies is currently under review, and it is anticipated that the policy will be available for disclosure by the end of July 2023.

Please accept our apologies in withholding the policy and note, that the Trust rely on exemption Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to deny this aspect of your request.