

Paper & Electronic Patient Notes

Reference Number: RDF1644-23

Date of Response: 05/07/23

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Dear Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust,

Would the Trust be able to confirm if:

1. Patient notes in the Trust are paper/electronic/both?

Answer: Both. For all new episodes of patient care our notes are electronic; past episodes of care are paper – the dates are dependent on the Electronic Health Record (EHR) implementation. The EHR implementation dates were: Eastern Services October 2020, Northern Services July 2022.

2. Drug charts are paper/electronic/both?

Answer: Both, please see response to question 1.

3. If applicable, are there any plans to migrate away from paper to electronic?

a. If not, how often is the decision reviewed?

Answer: Not applicable.

4. If applicable, does the Trust keep track of serious incidents etc related to paper specifically eg misreading of handwritten comments/doses?

Answer: Yes.

a. How many incidents happened within the last year (or period the Trust tracks)?

Answer: For period 01/07/2022 to 30/06/2023 Nil serious incidents reported.

b. If not, how long ago did the Trust migrate away from paper notes?

Answer: Not Applicable.