

Birthing Pain Relief - Gas & Air

Reference Number: RDF1642-23

Date of Response: 18/08/23

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).

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust,

I am making a Freedom of Information request for the following:

1. *Whether the Trust's maternity department offered remifentanyl as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23*
 - a. *If the Trust did offer remifentanyl as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23, if at any point this was not available and, if so and if possible to calculate, approximately how many days this was not available as an option for?*

Answer: Royal Devon's Northern Services: Yes, Nil days of shortage.
Eastern Services: not currently used.
2. *Whether the Trust's maternity department offered Entonox as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23*
 - a. *If the Trust did offer Entonox as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23, if at any point this was not available and, if so and if possible to calculate, approximately how many days this was not available as an option for?*

Answer: Entonox is offered as a pain relief. At no point was it unavailable.
3. *Whether the Trust's maternity department offered sterile water injections as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23*
 - a. *If the Trust did offer sterile water injections as a pain relief option during labour in 2022-23, if at any point this was not available and, if so and if possible to calculate, approximately how many days this was not available as an option for*

Answer: Sterile water injections are not offered as a pain relief option.