

**Reference Number:** FOIAH2324/168  
**From:** Press/Media  
**Date:** 28 June 2023  
**Subject:** Use of nitrous oxide within the Trust

**Q1** Since 2018 until now, how many complaints have you had about potential excessive exposure to Nitrous Oxide via Entonox and prolonged exposure of staff to high levels of nitrous oxide? Please provide these figures broken down year-by-year eg. 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 so far.

**A1** Information not held – we do not use Entonox

**Q2** Have you ever suspended the use of Entonox or any other inhaled as an inhalation analgesic for women in labour in either hospital setting or at home births? If so, please state how many times per year its use has been suspended since the first suspension was recorded.

**A2** Information not held - Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust is a specialist children's hospital and does not provide maternity services.

**Q3** On average, how long has the use of Entonox been suspended for?

**A3** Information not held - as per A1

**Q4** Have you currently suspended or removed Entonox as an inhalation analgesic for women in Labour in either hospital setting or at home births, or are you planning to in the future?

**A4** Information not held - Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust is a specialist children's hospital and does not provide maternity services.

**Q5** Do you have ventilation/scavenger units to remove Entonox in your maternity unit? If yes, how old are the ventilation/scavenger systems on the maternity wards and when they last updated/repared?

**A5** Information not held - Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust is a specialist children's hospital and does not provide maternity services.

**Q6** On average, how much exposure do maternity staff have to Entonox in a week and how often do you monitor the levels?

**A6** Information not held - Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust is a specialist children's hospital and does not provide maternity services.

**Q7** Have you had any staff who have been exposed to Entonox in excess of the Workplace Exposure Limit (WEL) of 100ppm (eight-hour time weighted average) under COSHH Regulations 2002, and what were the levels of exposure?

A7 Information not held – as per A1

Q8 Is there currently any legal action involving your staff in relation to this?

A8 Information not held – as per A1