

Reference Number: FOIAH2324/540
From: Private Individual
Date: 04 January 2024
Subject: Treating Patients with sodium nitrate poisoning

- Q1 Are A&E clinicians and nurses employed by the Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust trained to recognise the symptoms of sodium nitrite poisoning?
- A1 Yes. We use national guidelines if suspected. Staff have access to Toxbase and the national poisons unit for clinical management and if concerned regarding possible ingestion. There is access via the Emergency Department handbook to a list of antidote availability and this is available from the night room in ED.
- Q2 Are A&E clinicians and nurses employed by the Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust trained to treat patients suffering with sodium nitrite poisoning with the antidote methylthioninium chloride commonly called methylene blue?
- A2 Yes. Nursing and Medical staff all have access to Toxbase from triage and for further medical management. This provides clear guidance on antidotes and how to give these.
- Q3 Does the A&E department at the Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust routinely carry the antidote methylthioninium chloride commonly called methylene blue?
- A3 We stock Methylthioninium Chloride 1% Injection in our Pharmacy Night Room which can be accessed by AED Staff in and out of hours.