

## Freedom of Information Act Request

I would like to submit a Freedom of Information request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please could you provide the following information:

1. Over the last 5 years how many IV fluid bags have been bought/used by your trust (can you please give in X bags/year)?

The average annual usage of IV fluid bag by the Trust over the last five years is 394,710.2 bags.

This average is calculated based on the usage of the following IV fluid bag:

- Glucose solutions, of any strengths
- Glucose in Sodium Chloride solutions, of any strengths
- Glycine solutions
- Mannitol solutions, of any strengths
- Potassium Chloride in Solution Chloride solutions and/or Glucose solutions, of any strengths
- Sodium Bicarbonate solutions, of any strengths
- Sodium Chloride solutions, of any strengths
- Sodium Lactate Compound (Hartmanns) solutions
- Water for Irrigation

2. For the amounts in answer 1, can you advise what different types were used ie what was the saline concentration, different size bags, any bags containing pre-mixed medication other than saline etc?

### Glucose solutions

GLUCOSE (100mL) 20 % Infusion
GLUCOSE (100mL) 5 % Intravenous Infusion
GLUCOSE (250mL) 12.5 % Intravenous Infusion
GLUCOSE (250mL) 5 % Intravenous Infusion
GLUCOSE (500mL) 5 % Intravenous Infusion
GLUCOSE (500mL) 10% Intravenous Infusion
GLUCOSE (500mL) 20% Intravenous Infusion
GLUCOSE (Litre) 5% Intravenous Infusion

### Glucose in Sodium Chloride solutions

GLUCOSE 10% & SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.9% (500mL) Intravenous Infusion
GLUCOSE 4% & SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.18% (500mL) Intravenous Infusion
GLUCOSE 4% & SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.18% (Litre) Intravenous Infusion
GLUCOSE 5% & SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.9% (500mL) Intravenous Infusion

**Glycine solutions**

GLYCINE (1 Litre) 1.5 % Irrigation  
 GLYCINE (2 Litre) 1.5% Irrigation  
 GLYCINE (3 Litre) 1.5% Irrigation

**Mannitol solutions**

MANNITOL (500ML) 10% Intravenous Infusion  
 MANNITOL (500ML) 20% Intravenous Infusion

**Potassium Chloride in Solution Chloride solutions and/or Glucose solutions**

POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.15% and GLUCOSE 5% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.15% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.9% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.15% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.18% & GLUCOSE 4% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.15% and GLUCOSE 10% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.15% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.45% & GLUCOSE 10% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.15% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.9% & GLUCOSE 5% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.15% and GLUCOSE 5% Intravenous Infusion 1000mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.15% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.9% Intravenous Infusion 1000mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.15% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.18% & GLUCOSE 4% Intravenous Infusion 1000mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.3% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.9% & GLUCOSE 10% Intravenous Infusion 500ml Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.3% and GLUCOSE 5% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.3% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.9% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.3% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.18% & GLUCOSE 4% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.3% and GLUCOSE 10% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.3% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.45% & GLUCOSE 5% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.3% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.9% & GLUCOSE 5% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.3% and GLUCOSE 5% Intravenous Infusion 1000mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.3% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.9% Intravenous Infusion 1000mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.3% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.18% & GLUCOSE 4% Intravenous Infusion 1000mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.6% and SODIUM CHLORIDE 0.9% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack  
 POTASSIUM CHLORIDE 0.6% and GLUCOSE 5% Intravenous Infusion 500mL Bag Pack

**Sodium Bicarbonate solutions**

SODIUM BICARBONATE (200m) 8.4% Intravenous Infusion  
 SODIUM BICARBONATE (500mL) 1.26% Intravenous Infusion  
 SODIUM BICARBONATE (500mL) 4.2% Intravenous Infusion

### **Sodium Chloride solutions**

SODIUM CHLORIDE (100mL) 0.9% Intravenous Infusion
SODIUM CHLORIDE (100mL) 0.9 % Irrigation
SODIUM CHLORIDE (2 Litre) 0.9% Irrigation
SODIUM CHLORIDE (250mL) 0.9% Intravenous Infusion
SODIUM CHLORIDE (3 Litre) 0.9% Irrigation
SODIUM CHLORIDE (500ml) 0.45% Intravenous Infusion
SODIUM CHLORIDE (500mL) 0.9 % Intravenous Infusion
SODIUM CHLORIDE (500mL) 1.8% Intravenous Infusion
SODIUM CHLORIDE (500mL) 2.7 % Intravenous Infusion
SODIUM CHLORIDE (50mL) 0.9% Intravenous Infusion
SODIUM CHLORIDE (50mL) 0.9 % Irrigation
SODIUM CHLORIDE (Litre) 0.9 % Intravenous Infusion
SODIUM CHLORIDE (Litre) 0.9% Irrigation

### **Sodium Lactate Compound (Hartmanns) solutions**

SODIUM LACTATE COMPOUND (500ML) (HARTMANNS) Intravenous Infusion
SODIUM LACTATE COMPOUND (LITRE) (HARTMANNS) Intravenous Infusion

### **Water for Irrigation**

WATER FOR IRRIGATION 1000 mL
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Given the diverse range of products employed within the Trust, the preceding list highlights the main IV fluid bags used but should not be considered an exclusive inventory.

3. What brands/makes of IV bags do you purchase? Are they bought directly from the manufacturer or via a distributor?

We primarily purchase IV infusion bags from B. Braun Medical Limited (via a wholesaler), Baxter Healthcare Ltd (directly), and Fresenius Kabi Ltd (directly).

4. Is there a contract in place for purchasing IV Fluids, and if so when does the current contract expire?

Yes, the IV fluids contract expires on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025.

5. What is the average unit price for normal saline solution? Has this price changed in the last 5 years?

After careful consideration, we regret to inform you that we are unable to provide the information you have requested. Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 allows for information to be exempt from disclosure if it constitutes a trade secret or would likely prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

### **Explanation of the Exemption:**

Section 43(2) states:

Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it)

We have determined that the release of the requested information would likely prejudice the commercial interests of Veolia.

### **Contract Information Covered Under Exemption:**

#### **1. Pricing and Cost Information**

This includes detailed pricing models such as unit price, value of contracts currently in place, cost breakdowns, profit margins, and other sensitive financial data. Disclosure of this information would allow competitors to undercut our pricing strategies and would result in significant competitive harm to our business operations.

### **Justification**

- **Likelihood of Competitive Harm:** The release of this information would cause substantial harm to Veolia by enabling competitors to gain insight into our pricing, business strategies, and proprietary technologies. Such disclosure would erode our market position and affect our ability to compete effectively.
- **Voluntary Submission:** In cases where the information was submitted voluntarily (e.g., as part of a bid or proposal), it was provided with the understanding that it would not be publicly disclosed, and doing so would violate the confidentiality of that arrangement.
- **Commercial Sensitivity:** The information in the identified sections is not publicly available and has been protected from disclosure to ensure the commercial success of the business.

### **Public Interest Test:**

Although Section 43 is a qualified exemption and requires a public interest test, we have conducted this test and concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure. While we recognize the importance of transparency, in this case, the need to protect sensitive commercial information is paramount.

### **Review and Appeals:**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days

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of receiving this response and should be addressed to d.wraith@nhs.net

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance d.wraith@nhs.net

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Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

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