



**University Hospitals  
of North Midlands**  
NHS Trust

**Royal Stoke University Hospital**  
**Data, Security and Protection**  
Newcastle Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST4 6QG

Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-149

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Email [foi@uhnm.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhnm.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 7th June 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding SNOMED codes

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

- Q1 For the period from the 1st of March 2022 to the 28th of February 2023,**
- (a) how many patients were admitted to your hospitals with the following SNOMED codes,**
  - (b) how long did they stay in the hospital in terms of the average length of stay,**
  - (c) how many were readmitted within 30, 60 and 90 days, and**
  - (d) how many wards were they admitted to during their stay?**

SNOMED-CT	SNOMED-CT Description	Category
54150009	Upper respiratory infection (disorder)	Respiratory
50417007	Lower respiratory tract infection (disorder)	Respiratory
195967001	Asthma (disorder)	Respiratory
276191000000107	Viral wheeze (disorder)	Respiratory
1240751000000100	Coronavirus disease 19 caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (disorder)	Respiratory
13645005	Chronic obstructive lung disease (disorder)	Respiratory
4120002	Bronchiolitis (disorder)	Respiratory
59282003	Pulmonary embolism (disorder)	Respiratory
233604007	Pneumonia (disorder)	Respiratory
278516003	Lobar pneumonia (disorder)	Respiratory
7520000	Pyrexia of unknown origin (finding)	Respiratory
60046008	Pleural effusion (disorder)	Respiratory
422588002	Aspiration pneumonia (disorder)	Respiratory
1325171000000100	Acute disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 infection (disorder)	Respiratory
195951007	Acute exacerbation of chronic obstructive airways disease (disorder)	Respiratory
6142004	Influenza (disorder)	Respiratory
40541001	Acute pulmonary edema (disorder)	Respiratory
262599003	Foreign body in respiratory tract (disorder)	Respiratory
398447004	Severe acute respiratory syndrome (disorder)	Respiratory
709109004	Hypercapnic respiratory failure (disorder)	Respiratory
371043007	Toxic inhalation injury (disorder)	Respiratory
233765002	Respiratory failure without hypercapnia (disorder)	Respiratory
1325181000000100	Ongoing symptomatic disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (disorder)	Respiratory
262784001	Contusion of lung (disorder)	Respiratory
42434002	Pneumothorax due to trauma (disorder)	Respiratory
212962007	Drowning and non-fatal immersion (disorder)	Respiratory
205237003	Pneumonitis (disorder)	Respiratory
12295008	Bronchiectasis (disorder)	Respiratory
233703007	Interstitial lung disease (disorder)	Respiratory
284188001	Burn of respiratory tract (disorder)	Respiratory
195889001	Legionella pneumonia (disorder)	Respiratory
233658003	Pleural plaque (disorder)	Respiratory
40122008	Pneumoconiosis (disorder)	Respiratory
443980004	Neutropenic sepsis (disorder)	Sepsis
2858002	Puerperal sepsis (disorder)	Sepsis
42343007	Congestive heart failure (disorder)	CHF

A1 UHNM does not use SNOMED codes when coding inpatient activity, we use OPCS 4.10, and therefore we are unable to answer this request.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in health records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

Q2 If it is not possible to supply any part of this information, please provide as much information as possible.

How was their respiratory rate incorporated into the NEWS2 record and EHR or similar system for the patients admitted with these codes?

**Please describe as closely as possible the process and systems used.**

- A2 The wards use the Trust system to record patient observations. The healthcare professional will complete the observations and input into the handheld device. –this would be inputted and recorded via VitalPac
- Q3 Was any digital or remote patient monitoring of respiratory rate used to monitor these patients? If yes, what form did this monitoring take, and who was the supplier or manufacturer?**
- A3 Through a COPDPredict Virtual ward project those patients with SNOWMED 195951007 which involved the patient sending in daily response to COPD questions and spirometer and pulse oximeter readings to detect the onset of an exacerbation. The supplier of COPD Predict is NePESmo

\*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

***UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.***

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



**Rachel Montinaro**  
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records