

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-519

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

Date: 8th March 2021

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 11th February 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding admissions.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because some of the information requested in your questions is not held centrally - primary reason for the admission, but may be recorded in individual 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*

Under section 16 of the FOI Act we are required to provide requestors with advice and assistance where possible. We would therefore like to advise you that if your request is shortened to just the questions that we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame. In order to avoid delay to your response we have provided this attached.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) 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 I would like to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act relating to reasons for admissions of people over the age of 65 from Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions. There is further information relating to the reason and intended use of this request, below.

I understand that it's possible to disaggregate episodes of admissions by where someone is resident prior to admission – my query below on care home residents relates to a local authority (code 65) or NHS (code 54) or private (code 85) run care home. (https://datadictionary.nhs.uk/attributes/source_of_admission.html)

In your NHS Trust, monthly from January 2015 to December 2020, how many emergency admissions were recorded for a) people over 65 and b) people over 65 with dementia overall and separately with?

- a fall
- a Urinary Tract Infection

- Delirium
- Dehydration
- Gastroenteritis
- Influenza
- Chest Infections/ Pneumonia
- Ear, nose or throat infections

as their primary reason for emergency admission, and for each category how many were care home residents, ideally broken down by LA, NHS or Private?

The attached table may help frame your responses. By emergency admissions, we are referring to inpatient admissions to hospital (not A&E attendance), which can happen via A&E, dental casualty department, GP, bed bureau, consultant clinic, transfer from another provider or Mental Health Crisis Resolution team. We understand these are recorded under the Hospital Episode Statistic Database.

Please could you send this information to Policy@alzheimers.org.uk and use this inbox for any questions relating to this request.

We are requesting this data by month, so we can more accurately understand the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on services during 2020. If it is not possible to provide this information by month, please provide this data for calendar years 2015 to 2020. Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Alzheimer's Society is shining a light on the challenges faced by people with dementia due to poor or insufficient social care provision. Throughout the campaign, our priority is to draw attention to the under resourcing of the social care system, the impact this has on people and the NHS, and the importance that government recognise the salience of this issue.

We believe many people could and should be supported in the community by the social care system to prevent certain issues such as Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions developing to the point they require a trip to hospital. We are not seeking to place any blame on the part of hospitals around any of the issues raised from the FOI - its purpose is to highlight the kind of strains hospitals are operating under while the social care system remains in such need of reform. As recognised in the NHS Long Term Plan (paragraph 1.57) "both the wellbeing of older people and the pressures on the NHS are also linked to how well social care is functioning".

We want to support much needed reform to create a social care system that provides quality and affordable care to all that need it. The potential upcoming government Green Paper provides an opportunity for us to do this. The input you provide will be absolutely invaluable in illustrating the significance of the challenge we all currently face in supporting people with dementia.

A1 Please refer to the attached spread sheet, note that we are only able to provide figures for total Admissions, primary reason for the admission = section 12 exemption as detailed above

*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.

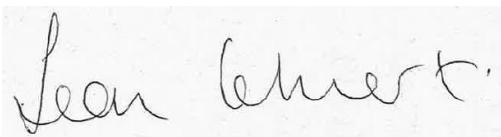
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

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

Yours,



Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager