



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-595

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Quality, Safety and Compliance Department
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 3rd February 2020

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 17th January 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding assault attendances to Emergency Department.

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 write to you on behalf of the [REDACTED]. We are conducting an annual national study of attendances to Emergency Departments for assault-related injury and would be grateful if your department could provide us with attendance data for 2019. This data will be used, as in previous years, to analyse trends in violence in England and Wales from injury perspective. You can read more about the group and how your data has been used by following this link:

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/violence-research-group>

The data we require are as follows (for period 1st January 2019 and 31st December 2019) in an electronic format that allows us to read the data into a database. Many hospitals respond to our survey and provide data in the form we require. Preferably this format is in an excel file or comma separated text file.

We require the gender of the patient (M or F), the date that they attended due to assault (dd/mm/yyyy) and their age. Age can either be numerical to the nearest year (preferred) or in age bands ("0-10", "11-17", "18-30", "31-50", "51+"), we can also accept date of birth.

A1 UHNM responded to this FOI on 15th January 2020 Reference 572-1920 this new request is identical. In accordance with Section 14 (2) of the FOI Act, Where a public authority has previously complied with a request for information which was made by any person, it is not obliged to comply with a subsequent identical or substantially similar request from that person unless a reasonable interval has elapsed between compliance with the previous request and the making of the current request.

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.

In addition UHNM is applying section 21: *information reasonably accessible by other means.* This is because the information is available via the Trust's public website at the following link:



<http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Regulatory-information/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/FOIdisclosurelog/Pages/default.aspx>

Q2 To calculate the level of assault-related injury in England and Wales we also require the total number of attendances for any reason in the year of interest, i.e. 2019.

Please also include the names of hospitals providing assault data.

A2 As answer 1

*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 676474.

Yours,



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Jean Lehnert
Information Governance Manager

