

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: UHB 20-266**

21 August 2020

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting.

- 1. How many patients were discharged from UHBW NHS Foundation Trust hospitals to care homes, between March 1, 2020, and April 15, 2020?**

Total: 177 patients.

- 2. Of those patients discharged, how many were tested for Covid-19 before discharge?**

Between March 1st and April 15<sup>th</sup>, 17 patients discharged to care homes were tested for Covid-19.

Nb: Before April 15<sup>th</sup> the national guidance was not to test patients for Covid-19 before discharge to a care home. The national guidance was updated on April 16<sup>th</sup> with the move to a policy of testing all patients being discharged to care homes from hospital. Imminent discharges were already in progress as this was rolled out. All referral forms for discharges to care homes included the patient's current Covid information (i.e patient symptomatic or asymptomatic), plus whether they had been on a ward with Covid-positive patients.

- 3. Of those patients who were tested, how many patients' results were:**

- Positive: 1
- Negative: 16
- Inconclusive: 0

Please find below a media statement relating to this FOI enquiry:

**Carolyn Mills, chief nurse at University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust, said:**

*“Throughout the pandemic we have followed national guidance in relation to testing our inpatients prior to discharge.*

*“As the pandemic has progressed, a better understanding about the Covid-19 infection and its transmission has resulted in national guidance that has been reviewed and revised as necessary.*

*“We have, and continue to, follow the national guidance and work closely with our health and social care partners to ensure our patients are discharged safely.”*

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Director of Corporate Governance  
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust  
Trust Headquarters  
Marlborough Street  
Bristol  
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust’s Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team**

**University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust**