

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 21-014

13 January 2021

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 hold some the information you are requesting

Please can you provide me with the number of patients who died within 28 days of a positive COVID-19 test with underlying health conditions who were over the age of 70 between 01/03/2020 - 08/12/2020?

We do not differentiate to the detail that you are requesting. As per national NHSE/I guidance we are recording and reporting deaths of all patients who have tested positive to Covid-19 and have subsequently died within 28 days of a positive test result.

We are able to obtain this information however we have decided to apply Section 21 of the FOIA as this information is reasonably accessible in the public domain on the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-daily-deaths>

Section 21 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to provide the requested information is already reasonably accessible and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

Please can you also provide me with the number of patients who died within 28 days of a positive COVID-19 test WITHOUT any underlying health conditions who were over the age of 70 for the same timeframe?

We do not differentiate to the detail that you are requesting. As per national NHSE/I guidance we are recording and reporting deaths of all patients who have tested positive to Covid-19 and have subsequently died within 28 days of a positive test result.

We are able to obtain this information however we have decided to apply Section 21 of the FOIA as this information is reasonably accessible in the public domain on the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-daily-deaths>

Section 21 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to provide the requested information is already reasonably accessible and therefore we are withholding this information at this time

Please can you advise why you do not hold data on the number of patients who have

died from other respiratory illnesses such as influenza, pneumonia, flu etc? (except covid-19) during this timeframe?

None of the systems we use in our hospitals are designed to capture cause of death. This is what the coroner does.

Prior to January 2020 did you hold data on the number of patients who have died of other respiratory illnesses? (except covid-19)

No.

In 2020 have you compiled patient deaths of all respiratory illnesses including covid-19 as one category?

The coroner does this.

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