

Request title: Aspirated Patients admitted to ITU

Date of Response: 22nd October 2015

Further to your Freedom of Information request, the Trust has answered your questions in the order they appear in your request.

Request and reply

1. How many aspirated patients were admitted into ITU in the last 4 years (if this time span is too much then make it to your size)?
The Trust can confirm that there were less than 5 patients in the last 4 years. Where the number is lower than 5, the Trust is not willing to give any further breakdown on this information due to the fact that this may well mean that any patients concerned may possibly be able to identify themselves if this information was released into the public domain, therefore the Trust is withholding this further breakdown of information under section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act. The Trust considers that the information is exempt under section 41 (a+b) of the Freedom of Information Act. Please see the full Trust refusal notice below.
2. How many elderly over 80 or 85 years olds aspirated patients were admitted into ITU in the recent years (if this time span is too much then make it to your size) as a percentage of the total ITU patients?
The Trust can confirm that all of the above patients were over the age of 80 years.
3. Please tell me start and end month of your financial year?
The start of the financial year is 1st April and the end is 31st March.
4. Please tell me expenditure and PbR (Payment by Results) income claimed for these activities in your last financial year:
Please see the spread sheet attached for this information.

All financial hospital costs 'divided by' Total hospital seen inpatient and outpatient patients = Cost per patient

All financial hospital PbR income claimed 'divided by' Total hospital seen inpatient and outpatient patients = PbR Income claimed per patient

Dermatology department costs 'divided by' Total dermatology department seen patients = Cost per dermatology patient

Dermatology department PbR income claimed 'divided by' Total dermatology department seen patients = PbR Income claimed per dermatology patient

Resus department costs 'divided by' Total resus department seen patients = Cost per resus patient

Resus department PbR income claimed 'divided by' Total resus department seen patients = PbR Income claimed per resus patient

Acute ambulatory department costs 'divided by' Total acute ambulatory department seen patients = Cost per acute ambulatory department patient

Acute ambulatory department PbR income claimed 'divided by' Total acute ambulatory department seen

patients = PbR Income claimed per acute ambulatory department patient

Care of the elderly department costs 'divided by' Total care of the elderly department seen patients = Cost per care of the elderly department patient

Care of the elderly department PbR income claimed 'divided by' Total care of the elderly department seen patients = PbR Income claimed per care of the elderly department patient

ITU department costs 'divided by' Total ITU department seen patients = Cost per ITU department patient

ITU department PbR income claimed 'divided by' Total ITU department seen patients = PbR Income claimed per ITU department patient

Clarification on request

The requester is looking for information on the following:

Food, debris, mucus, phlegm stuck or aspiration pneumonia

J90.X - ICD10 diagnosis code for Pleural effusion

T12.1- opcs Drainage of the pleura

T12.2 – OPCS drainage of the pleural cavity

T12.3 – opcs Aspiration of the pleural cavity

T12.4 - OPCS insertion of tube drain into pleural cavity

Section 41 refusal notice

41: Information is exempt information if –

(a) It was obtained by the public authority from any other person (including another public authority), and

(b) The disclosure of the information to the public (otherwise than under this Act) by the public authority holding it would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that or any other person.

Section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act sets out an exemption from the right to know information, where the information requested was provided to the public authority in confidence with the expectation that the information would only be used/disclosed in accordance with the wishes of the confider. The information has been collected by the Trust in the course of the patients treatment and would form part of their health record, and the information contained within the health record would have been created as a result of information gathered with an expectation by the patient that it would be held in confidence.

On considering this, the Trust believes that in the context of health records, the responsibility of confidentiality is vital, as it reinforces and underpins the commitment of trust between patients and doctors, without which public confidence in the Trust may be damaged. Patients have a reasonable expectation that any information they provide will only be used to enable effective delivery of care and will be held under a duty of confidence. The ICO recognises in its guidance that section 41 will be particularly relevant to authorities holding information such as health records.

If there is a breach of confidence the confider or any other party affected may have the right to take action through the courts.

On considering the above points, the Trust has reached the conclusion that it will not divulge such information when there is no legal obligation to do so.