

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTHB_521_18

You asked:

I would like to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 about post-acute service provision for adults in a Disorder of Consciousness (Vegetative State/Minimally Conscious State) following a severe brain injury within your health board.

- Can you tell me which services adults with a severe brain injury are admitted to within your health board for assessment and rehabilitation when they are discharged from the acute hospital setting?
- Can you tell me which rehabilitation services adults in a Disorder of Consciousness are admitted to within your health board for assessment and diagnosis when they are discharged from the acute hospital setting?
- Can you tell me how many adults in a Disorder of Consciousness were admitted to each service in 2016, 2017 and 2018?

To give some context to my request:

In England, following the acute phase, patients are admitted to Level 1 or 2 Specialist rehabilitation centres for assessment and management funded by NHS England. There are certain centres that regularly admit patients in a Disorder of Consciousness for up to 3 months before they are discharged to longer term care settings. A list of these services is readily available via the UK Rehabilitation Outcomes Collaborative.

Our response:

I can confirm that Cwm Taf University Health Board do not provide a dedicated rehabilitation provision for brain injured adults. Therefore, we are unable to provide the specific information requested.

Individuals would go to Rookwood Hospital (Cardiff & Vale University Health Board) for their rehabilitation and then may transfer to us within one of our community hospitals to be closer to home, for a period of time. Until the patient could return home or an alternative appropriate longer term placement in a nursing home environment was sourced.