

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTHB_05_20

You asked:

1) In the financial year 2018-19, how many patients presented at your A&E departments (to include major A&E departments, minor injuries units and walk-in centres) with dental health problems?

Of these:

a) Of the patients presenting with dental health problems, how many received treatment at the hospital during that visit?

b) Of the patients presenting with dental health problems, can the numbers please be broken down by type of problem e.g. toothache, loss of teeth, bleeding from the mouth.

c) Of the patients presenting with dental health problems, can the numbers please be broken down by age of the patient e.g. 0-9, 10-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80-89, 90+

d) Of the patients presenting with dental health problems, how many were not registered with an NHS dentist?

2) Can I please get the figures above, but for the following financial years (separately):

2014-15

2015-16

2016-17

2017-18

2019-20 to Jan 1st 2020.

Our response:

Please note the following:

In relation to the numbers of patients presenting with dental health problems, how many received treatment at the hospital during that visit (1a), I can confirm that the Health Board does not centrally record this information. The information you require would be recorded within an individual patient's health record as part of their ongoing care. To provide you with this information, would require a manual trawl and significantly exceed the 18 hours time and £450 cost limit set out within Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

The patient cohort provided below is based on the mention of 'dental', 'tooth and 'gum' in the free text complaint field and only includes those patients where the field has been completed.

The Health Board does record information on how many of the patients presenting with dental problems were not registered with an NHS Dentist (1d), therefore we are unable to provide.

Please see information provided in the table below.

A&E Attendances with Dental Problems: 01.04.14 - 01.01.20						
Age	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
0-9	33	27	35	36	42	30
10-19	35	31	30	42	44	33
20-29	114	96	95	97	123	77
30-39	68	64	86	77	75	78
40-49	67	41	42	41	58	48
50-59	34	30	27	28	39	37
60-69	8	20	17	14	25	10
70-79	6	8	7	15	21	13
80-89	**	8	9	7	**	**
90+	0	**	0	0	0	0

Where the figures are less than 5, this has been denoted by **. The exact figures have been withheld due to the low numbers involved.

Where numbers are low we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. Also, responses under the Freedom of Information Act are made available to the public at large. The data is classed as personal data as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute as unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.