

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_118_20

You asked:

Under the freedom of information act, could you please provide the following information for each of the last five calendar years (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019), broken down by year:

1. The number of patients given an initial assessment for a sexually-related mental health condition in your health board area, broken down in the following way with regards to their age and gender, men: 16-24, 25-40, 40-60, 60 plus, women: 16-24, 25-40, 40-60, 60 plus, gender not specified or specified other than male and female: 16-24, 25-40, 40-60, 60 plus

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.

2. The number of patients referred for mental health sexual therapy, psychosexual counselling or any form of talking therapy relating to sexual issues in your health board area, broken down in the following way with regards to their age and gender, men: 16-24, 25-40, 40-60, 60 plus, women: 16-24, 25-40, 40-60, 60, gender not specified or specified other than male and female: 16-24, 25-40, 40-60, 60 plus.

Please see response to question 1.

3. The age of the youngest patient referred for mental health sexual therapy, psychosexual counselling or any form of talking therapy relating to sexual issues in each of the years above.

Please see response to question 1.

4. The number of patients in your health board area who have undergone a labiaplasty (vulva operation), broken down in the following way with regards to their age: Under 18, 18-24, 25-40, 40-60, 60 plus for each of the years above.

I can confirm that the Health Board does hold this information. However, to release the specific information in the way that you have requested would mean disclosure of low numbers.

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.

In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach 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.

However, in order to fulfil our obligation under Section 16 of the Act to provide advice and assistance, I can confirm from 2015 to 2019 five patients have undergone labiaplasty (vulva operation) and were aged between 18 – 24.

5. The age of the youngest patient in your health board area who has undergone a labiaplasty in each of these years.

Please see response above.