

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_381_20

Thank you for your request for information received on the 6 November 2020, regarding COVID. Please find the response from Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTMUHB) set out below:

Prior to reading our response to your questions below, please note the following in relation to:

Q1-4 Utilise ONS Deaths data for Welsh Residents as provided by the NWIS Data Warehouse. The data was extracted by CTMUHB on 27 November 2020. Please note that there can be a time lag in between a death and the codified reporting of it via the ONS Dataset.

Respiratory deaths are determined by the underlying cause of death starting with any of the following code stubs.

- Acute upper respiratory infections
 - 'J00', 'J01', 'J02', 'J03', 'J04', 'J05', 'J06',
- Influenza and pneumonia
 - 'J10', 'J11', 'J12', 'J13', 'J14', 'J15', 'J16', 'J17', 'J18',
- Other acute lower respiratory infections
 - 'J20', 'J21', 'J22',
- Other diseases of upper respiratory infections
 - 'J30', 'J31', 'J32', 'J33', 'J34', 'J35', 'J36', 'J37', 'J38', 'J39',
- Chronic lower respiratory diseases
 - 'J40', 'J41', 'J42', 'J43', 'J44', 'J45', 'J46', 'J47',
- Lung diseases due to external agents
 - 'J60', 'J61', 'J62', 'J63', 'J64', 'J65', 'J66', 'J67', 'J68', 'J69', 'J70',
- Other respiratory diseases principally affecting the interstitium
 - 'J80', 'J81', 'J82', 'J83', 'J84',
- Suppurative and necrotic conditions of the lower respiratory tract
 - 'J85', 'J86',
- Other diseases of the pleura
 - 'J90', 'J91', 'J92', 'J93', 'J94',
- Intraoperative and postprocedural complications and disorders of respiratory system, not elsewhere classified
 - 'J95',
- Other diseases of the respiratory system
 - 'J96', 'J97', 'J98', 'J99'

Questions 3-4.

- Deaths specifically for influenza are determined as above but where the underlying cause of death code specifically starts with any of 'J10', 'J11', 'J122'

Questions 5 – 8

- Admissions data is sourced from the Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS).
- Covid-19 Test data is sourced from the NWIS Data warehouse COVID-19 view of the Welsh Laboratory Information Management System (WLIMS).

1. 5 year average for respiratory deaths in the health board each season

Average Respiratory Deaths per season, for CTMUHB residents, are as follows

- a. Winter (based on 15/16 to 19/20) is 264.
- b. Summer (based on 2016 – 2020) is 138.
- c. Spring (based on 2016 - 2020) is 183.
- d. Autumn (based on 2015 – 2019) is 189.

2. This year's respiratory deaths in the health board

The total respiratory deaths, of CTMUHB Residents, for the Calendar Year 2020 is 553.

3. The average winter flu deaths in the health board for the last 5 years

There have been an average of 3 influenza deaths, for CTMUHB residents, over the 5 Winter Seasons (15/16 – 19/20).

4. This year's deaths from influenza

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

This being the case it is considered that such information should be withheld under Section 41 which sets out an exemption from the right to know where the information requested was provided to the public authority in confidence. The component which is applicable relates to the disclosure of the information would give rise to an actionable breach of confidence. In other words, if the Health Board disclosed the information being sought this could lead to their identification which would be unfair and inappropriate.

A duty of confidentiality does continue after the death of an individual to whom that duty is owed. Where there is a legally enforceable duty of confidentiality owed to a living individual, after death it can be enforced by the deceased's personal representative.

However, in order to fulfil our obligation under Section 16 of the Act to provide advice and assistance, we can confirm that the total influenza deaths, of CTMUHB Residents, for the Calendar Year 2020 is less than 5.

5. How many people have tested positive in the health board for covid-19

17200 Individual CTM Residents have received Positive Covid-19 tests.

6. How many positive received confirmatory tests?

1225 Covid-19 Positive tests, for CTMUHB residents, had a further Covid-19 test within the following 1 to 7 days.

7. How many people were admitted to hospital with covid following a positive test?

There have been 1322 admissions to CTMUHB hospitals with 14 days of that individual receiving a positive Covid-19 test.

8. How many were tested after admittance to hospital

794 of the admissions from Question 7 were tested during their admission to hospital.

9. Provide evidence that sar-cov19 has been extracted from an infectious person and isolated without other contaminants

The Health Board does not hold this information. We do not perform isolation of SARS-COV-2 Virus at CTMUHB, we only perform Covid antigen testing in Virology, using Polymerase chain reaction (PCR).