



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_258_24

You asked:

I am after details including figures and comparisons of the following.

1, number of deaths in last 20 years where silicosis has had a contributing factor, for Pontypridd/glyncoch/graigwen/ and RCT as a whole.

We would not be able to identify if a patient died in the community where silicosis was a contributing factor. However, to assist you with your request we have looked at any patient admitted to our hospitals with a diagnosis of silicosis at any stage of their admission, who lived in either Pontypridd, Glyncoch or Graigwen and had an outcome of died. The Inpatient data we hold in our warehouse only goes back as far as 2009. However, we can confirm that there were no patients identified.

We also amended the above search criteria to look at any patients admitted to our hospitals with a diagnosis of silicosis at any stage of their admission, who lived in RCT and had an outcome of died. We can confirm there were less than *5 patient identified.

2, the number of people in Glyncoch diagnosed with respiratory disease including emphysema, copd, asthma, lung cancer including dates of diagnosis by year for the last 20 years.

We do not hold this information. The initial diagnosis of a patient can occur at differing levels: GP, outpatient consultation, the result of a diagnostic test, inpatient/daycase admission, as examples.

We only record a definitive diagnosis for inpatient/daycase episodes via the clinical coding process. Therefore, we are unable to confirm the number of patients diagnosed with respiratory disease.

However, to assist you with your request we have looked at any patient admitted with a diagnosis of emphysema, copd, asthma or lung cancer at any stage of their admission, who lived in Glyncoch at the time of admission. Please see data provided below, noting the following:

- Data range used 01/01/2009 to 30/04/2024. The Inpatient data we hold in our warehouse only goes back as far as 2009.
- The data provided is only based on inpatient activity.
- Where data is reliant on clinical coding, this traditionally has a completion timeline of three months in arrears – therefore the 2024 data will be incomplete.
- The patients have been grouped by year of 1st admission.

- A patient can be admitted more than once with the same diagnosis as you asked for the number of people, each patient has only been counted once in the year they were first admitted.
- *Where the figures are less than 5, the exact figures have been withheld due to the low numbers involved.

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.

Calendar Year	Count of People admitted
2009	43
2010	29
2011	30
2012	19
2013	21
2014	16
2015	19
2016	16
2017	20
2018	16
2019	7
2020	Less than 5
2021	Less than 5
2022	Less than 5
2023	Less than 5

Whilst we have provided some data in relation to inpatient activity, the specific information you require may be more readily available from the Office of National Statics (ONS), as they have cause of death for all registered deaths. Therefore, you may wish to redirect your request to them directly via the following link: [Freedom of Information \(FOI\) - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk)