



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_381_25

You asked:

I'm writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following.

Please provide the following information, broken down by month, between January 2020 and July 2025 inclusive. If this is not possible, please instead provide it broken down by calendar year, 2020 to 2025 inclusive.

1. The number of times a patient was admitted where exposure to air pollution (International Classification of Diseases, tenth revision (ICD-10) code Z581)* was recorded as a contributing factor to the admission. (* I understand this is the code used by NHS trusts to log exposure to air pollution, but if your trust uses a different code or some other system, please still provide the relevant data)

We are unable to provide you with the level of detail you are seeking by month due to the low numbers involved. We consider that there is a potential risk for the individual to be identified from the information provided if this was disclosed, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. Therefore, 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.

However, please see the information provided by calendar year in the table below:

Calendar Year	Admitted	Deaths
2020	7	0
2021	10	0
2022	7	**
2023	**	0
2024	7	**
2025 (Jan – Jul)	12	0

Please note the following:

- Admitted within the date period.
- Patient may belong to another Health Board area.
- Where the figures are less than 5, this has been denoted by ** (Section 40 (2) applied – low numbers as stated above).

1a. If possible, please tell me what the primary diagnosis was for each of these admissions.

(For clarity, I want to know total numbers admitted with each primary diagnosis – for example, if 45 people were admitted with a primary diagnosis of asthma where exposure to air pollution was identified as a contributing factor.)

We can confirm that Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTMUHB) does hold this information. However, CTMUHB will not provide the specific details on the primary diagnosis for each of the admissions, due to the small numbers involved. It considers 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. Therefore, the Health Board has relied upon section 40(2) of the Act in respect of this request.

2. Please tell me how many of the patients in question 1 subsequently died in hospital.

Please see response to Q1.