

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_232_26

You asked:

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I would be grateful if you could provide the following information for Prince Charles Hospital:

1. What is the sickness rates in Orthopaedic and Trauma theatres over the last three years?

Sickness Rate Trauma and Orthopaedics

	23/24	24/25	25/26
Rate %	3.21%	7.13%	7.56%

1.1 What are the reasons for sickness over this period?

Absence Reasons - Trauma and Orthopaedics 2023-2024

Absence Reason	%
S10 Anxiety/stress/depression/other psychiatric illnesses	32.0
S23 Eye problems	29.2
S13 Cold, Cough, Flu - Influenza	11.9
S16 Headache / migraine	5.0
S15 Chest & respiratory problems	4.5
S25 Gastrointestinal problems	4.1
S28 Injury, fracture	4.1
S26 Genitourinary & gynaecological disorders	3.8
S27 Infectious diseases	3.2
S21 Ear, nose, throat (ENT)	0.9
S12 Other musculoskeletal problems	0.8
S98 Other known causes - not elsewhere classified	0.5

Absence Reasons - Trauma and Orthopaedics 2024-2025

Absence Reason	%
S10 Anxiety/stress/depression/other psychiatric illnesses	60.4
S15 Chest & respiratory problems	16.3
S25 Gastrointestinal problems	4.7
S28 Injury, fracture	4.3
S98 Other known causes - not elsewhere classified	4.2
S21 Ear, nose, throat (ENT)	3.5
S13 Cold, Cough, Flu - Influenza	3.1
S31 Skin disorders	0.8
S26 Genitourinary & gynaecological disorders	0.7
S12 Other musculoskeletal problems	0.6
S11 Back Problems	0.5
S19 Heart, cardiac & circulatory problems	0.3
S27 Infectious diseases	0.2
S22 Dental and oral problems	0.2
S23 Eye problems	0.2

Absence Reasons - Trauma and Orthopaedics 2025-2026

Absence Reason	%
S10 Anxiety/stress/depression/other psychiatric illnesses	40.5
S15 Chest & respiratory problems	34.0
S98 Other known causes - not elsewhere classified	7.7
S28 Injury, fracture	6.3
S30 Pregnancy related disorders	3.9
S11 Back Problems	2.9
S13 Cold, Cough, Flu - Influenza	2.6
S25 Gastrointestinal problems	1.2
S12 Other musculoskeletal problems	0.7
S19 Heart, cardiac & circulatory problems	0.2

2. What is the hospital's overall sickness rates over the last three years?

Sickness Rate Prince Charles Hospital

	23/24	24/25	25/26
Rate %	6.92%	7.08%	7.72%

2.1 What are the reasons for sickness over this period?

Absence Reasons - Prince Charles Hospital

2023-2024

Absence Reason	%
S10 Anxiety/stress/depression/other psychiatric illnesses	32.1
S98 Other known causes - not elsewhere classified	9.8
S12 Other musculoskeletal problems	7.7
S11 Back Problems	6.8
S25 Gastrointestinal problems	6.7
S13 Cold, Cough, Flu - Influenza	6.3
S28 Injury, fracture	5.6
S15 Chest & respiratory problems	5.1
S26 Genitourinary & gynaecological disorders	3.8
S17 Benign and malignant tumours, cancers	2.8
S30 Pregnancy related disorders	2.8
S27 Infectious diseases	2.2
S19 Heart, cardiac & circulatory problems	2.2
S16 Headache / migraine	1.5
S21 Ear, nose, throat (ENT)	1.4
S23 Eye problems	0.7
S22 Dental and oral problems	0.5
S14 Asthma	0.5
S99 Unknown causes / Not specified	0.4
S18 Blood disorders	0.3
S31 Skin disorders	0.3
S24 Endocrine / glandular problems	0.2
S29 Nervous system disorders	0.2
S20 Burns, poisoning, frostbite, hypothermia	0.0

Absence Reasons - Prince Charles Hospital

2024-2025

Absence Reason	%
S10 Anxiety/stress/depression/other psychiatric illnesses	34.7
S98 Other known causes - not elsewhere classified	10.4
S25 Gastrointestinal problems	8.3
S12 Other musculoskeletal problems	7.0
S13 Cold, Cough, Flu - Influenza	6.6
S11 Back Problems	6.1
S28 Injury, fracture	4.5
S15 Chest & respiratory problems	3.5
S26 Genitourinary & gynaecological disorders	2.9
S30 Pregnancy related disorders	2.4
S19 Heart, cardiac & circulatory problems	2.3
S16 Headache / migraine	2.3
S21 Ear, nose, throat (ENT)	2.3
S17 Benign and malignant tumours, cancers	2.0
S23 Eye problems	1.2
S27 Infectious diseases	0.9
S31 Skin disorders	0.6
S22 Dental and oral problems	0.6
S99 Unknown causes / Not specified	0.4
S24 Endocrine / glandular problems	0.4
S29 Nervous system disorders	0.4
S18 Blood disorders	0.1
S14 Asthma	0.0
S20 Burns, poisoning, frostbite, hypothermia	0.0

Absence Reasons - Prince Charles Hospital

2025-2026

Absence Reason	%
S10 Anxiety/stress/depression/other psychiatric illnesses	36.0
S98 Other known causes - not elsewhere classified	11.0
S25 Gastrointestinal problems	8.3
S12 Other musculoskeletal problems	6.7
S28 Injury, fracture	6.2
S13 Cold, Cough, Flu - Influenza	5.4
S11 Back Problems	5.0
S26 Genitourinary & gynaecological disorders	3.9
S15 Chest & respiratory problems	3.0
S19 Heart, cardiac & circulatory problems	2.6
S30 Pregnancy related disorders	2.5
S17 Benign and malignant tumours, cancers	2.1
S16 Headache / migraine	1.6
S21 Ear, nose, throat (ENT)	1.2
S23 Eye problems	1.0
S99 Unknown causes / Not specified	0.9
S31 Skin disorders	0.6
S29 Nervous system disorders	0.4
S27 Infectious diseases	0.4
S18 Blood disorders	0.3
S22 Dental and oral problems	0.3
S24 Endocrine / glandular problems	0.2
S14 Asthma	0.1
S20 Burns, poisoning, frostbite, hypothermia	0.1

3. What has been the total cost of bank staff used to cover staff sickness in Orthopaedic and Trauma over the past three years?

We can confirm that the Health Board does not capture this specific information.

While information is held on total bank staff expenditure by service area, temporary staffing systems do not record the underlying reason for bank usage (for example, whether cover was required due to sickness absence, vacancies or service pressures). Therefore, we are unable to provide.

4.What is the total number of blood and bodily fluid exposures reported in the hospital over the last three years?

Date Reported	Total number of incidents reported
2023/2024	7
2024/2025	6
2025/2026	**

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.

4.1 What percentage of those are from operating theatres?

Date Reported	Percentage from operating theatre
2023/2024	0%
2024/2025	33%
2025/2026	25%