



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_15_26

You asked:

Please can you provide data for the past ten years on chicken pox hospitalisations within your health board hospitals, specifically:-

1. Total number of hospitalisations for each year from 2015-2025 (or if data not yet available for 2025, 2014-2024).

We can confirm the total number of chicken pox hospitalisations for the time period (2015-2025) was 639. A breakdown by year has been provided below:

2015 – 68
2016 – 34
2017 – 43
2018 – 73
2019 – 60
2020 – 20
2021 – 18
2022 – 89
2023 – 106
2024 – 71
2020 - 57

Please note the following:

- Cwm Taf Morgannwg (CTM) University Health Board was established on 1 April 2019. Therefore, due to the timeframe requested, data prior to this relates to the previous Cwm Taf area and does not reflect the boundary change (Princess of Wales Hospital not included).
- me patient maybe hospitalised at different date stamps.
- Patient may belong to another Health Board area.

2. Ages of patients hospitalised and whether they already had underlying health conditions.

Age ranges – Please see table provided below. Noting, 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.

Underlying health conditions - We can confirm that the Health Board does not centrally record this information. To provide you with this data, would require a manual trawl through individual records. The Health Board estimates that the cost of locating, retrieving and extracting this data would significantly exceed the 18 hours time and £450 cost limit set out within Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

hospitalisations	Calendar Year	Age Bracket
53	2015	0-4
**	2015	15-20
**	2015	21-30
**	2015	31-40
**	2015	41-50
**	2015	51-60
6	2015	5-9
**	2015	61+
21	2016	0-4
**	2016	10-14
**	2016	21-30
**	2016	31-40
**	2016	51-60
7	2016	5-9
**	2016	61+
35	2017	0-4
**	2017	15-20
6	2017	5-9
**	2017	61+
53	2018	0-4
**	2018	10-14
**	2018	15-20
**	2018	21-30
**	2018	31-40
**	2018	51-60
11	2018	5-9
**	2018	61+
48	2019	0-4
**	2019	15-20
**	2019	41-50
**	2019	51-60
8	2019	5-9
12	2020	0-4
**	2020	10-14
**	2020	21-30
**	2020	51-60
**	2020	5-9
14	2021	0-4
**	2021	21-30
**	2021	5-9
65	2022	0-4
**	2022	10-14
**	2022	21-30
**	2022	31-40
**	2022	41-50
17	2022	5-9
**	2022	61+
70	2023	0-4
**	2023	10-14
**	2023	15-20

**	2023	21-30
**	2023	31-40
**	2023	41-50
**	2023	51-60
26	2023	5-9
52	2024	0-4
**	2024	21-30
**	2024	41-50
13	2024	5-9
**	2024	61+
40	2025	0-4
6	2025	10-14
**	2025	21-30
**	2025	51-60
9	2025	5-9

3. Were any patients sent to ICU?

**Less than 5.

4. Did any patients die from chicken pox? If so what were the ages and did they have underlying health conditions?

We can confirm that the Health Board does not hold this specific information. The detailed information that you require would be held in the individual's death certificate. Death certificates are not held by the Health Board, but by the Registrar of Deaths (in the local authority). Therefore, you may wish to redirect your request to them directly.

To assist you with this request, the relevant email addresses are provided below:

- Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council - freedomofinformation@rhondda-cynon-taff.gov.uk
- Merthyr Tydfil Borough Council - FOI@merthyr.gov.uk
- Bridgend County Borough Council - foi@bridgend.gov.uk