



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_310_26

You asked:

For the financial year 2024/25 (1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025), please provide the following information. If complete data for this period is not yet available, please provide the most recent 12-month period for which complete data is held, and specify the dates covered.

1. The total number of patients who presented to your emergency department(s) with paracetamol overdose or suspected paracetamol toxicity.

We can confirm that 3052 blood tests were done for paracetamol levels during this time.

2. Of those presentations, how many involved patients aged 17 years or under. If possible, please break this down by the following age groups: 0-11 years, 12-15 years, 16-17 years.

Please see provided in the table below information from the lab where paracetamol tests were completed.

Count of Episode	Paracetamol		
Age	Detected	Not detected	No result
Adult	1423	1251	37
Paediatric	219	116	**
0-11	12	6	0
12-15	124	50	**
16-17	83	60	**
Unknown			
Age Not Stated	0	**	0

"Age not stated" are the unidentified A&E arrivals.

"Detected": paracetamol result was measurable i.e. > 5mg/L (caveats around the time of sampling post intake and negative results apply).

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.

3. Of all presentations, where this information is recorded, how many were classified as: (a) accidental overdose or therapeutic excess - defined as an unintentional overdose taken for therapeutic purposes; (b) intentional self-poisoning; (c) unknown or unclassified.

We can confirm that the Health Board does not centrally record this specific information. The information you require would be recorded within an individual patient's health record as part of their ongoing care. To provide you with this information, would require a manual trawl and significantly exceed the 18 hours time and £450 cost limit set out within Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

4. Of all presentations, how many involved a combination product containing paracetamol - such as a cold and flu remedy, co-codamol or similar - rather than paracetamol alone?

Please see response to Q3.