

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_205_21

You asked:

I am writing to you, under the Freedom of Information Act, to request the following for Cwm Taf Health Authority, by hospital, from 1 March 2020 to date:

1. Number of deaths where Covid 19 was proven to be the only cause.

For the date period 01/03/2020 – 18/05/2021, the following number of deaths have occurred in Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board hospitals due to COVID-19, with no comorbidities:

Prince Charles Hospital	18
Princess of Wales Hospital	13
Royal Glamorgan Hospital	28
Ysbyty Cwm Cynon Hospital	5
Ysbyty Cwm Rhondda Hospital	Less than 5
Other	0

Please note, these figures could include deaths of patients from other University Health Boards who were admitted to one of our hospitals during this the time period.

Where the figures are less than 5, 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.

2. Number of deaths with no co-morbidities where Covid 19 was proven to be a contributing cause.

Please see response to question 1.

3. Number of deaths with co-morbidities where Covid 19 was proven to be a contributing cause.

For the date period 01/03/2020 – 18/05/2021, the following number of deaths have occurred in Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board hospitals due to COVID-19, with comorbidities. These figures could include deaths of patients from other University Health Boards who were admitted to one of our hospitals during this time period.

Other	0
Prince Charles Hospital	70
Princess of Wales Hospital	118
Royal Glamorgan Hospital	100
Ysbyty Cwm Cynon Hospital	5
Ysbyty Cwm Rhondda Hospital	11

Please note, the source of the data used for this response is the Office of National Statistics (ONS) data Registered Deaths, supplied to us via NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS). As such, there will be a time lag on the reporting of deaths, as ONS data awaits the official clinical determination of death.

This is the only source of data that we have to be able to determine whether somebody died directly of Covid-19 without any co-morbidities (the figures most commonly cited in the media are the deaths within 28 days of a positive pathology test which is a different metric taken from the Welsh Patient Administrative System (WPAS) /Office of National Statistics (ONS) / Master Patient Index (MPI) systems and combined with Welsh Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) data. MPI is the Master Patient Index. It is a national system used to help multiple national and local systems update their demographics with changes from other systems. (E.g. if a death is recorded in one Health Board's WPAS system then another can be automatically updated with that change). Please note that our WPAS doesn't accept these changes automatically like some other Health Boards.

There were unfortunately other deaths where COVID-19 was listed as a cause of death, but all of these had other causes of death listed as well and so are not applicable to this response.