

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_379_21

Thank you for your request for information received on the 10 September 2021. Please find the response from Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board set out below:

You asked:

How many people have died of COVID-19 alone in royal Glamorgan hospital?

As in coronavirus killed them and nothing else was a factor in their death, I see that you publish COVID 19 deaths but they all say within 28 days of a positive test, so there is no real evidence that those deaths are actually of COVID 19, I just want to know the exact figure of people who have died OF covid 19 and nothing else, from 1st of January 2020 up till 1 of August 2021

Our response:

For the date Period 01/01/2020 – 01/08/2021, 33 deaths have occurred in the Royal Glamorgan Hospital (RGH) due to COVID-19, with no comorbidities. This figure will include patients admitted from other University Health Board's to RGH.

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.