



**GIG**  
CYMRU  
**NHS**  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chairman: **Andrew Davies**  
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Tracy Myhill**

**gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser**  
**caring for each other, working together, always improving**

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019  
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 19-E-007

☎ 01639 683312

☎ 01639 648363

🖱 [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk)

Corporate Administration  
Headquarters  
1 Talbot Gateway  
Baglan  
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Your request sought information relating to opiod misuse.

Please note from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 responsibility for providing healthcare services for people in the Bridgend County Borough Council area transferred from Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board to Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board. In light of this change to ABMU's responsibilities, the organisation's name has changed to Swansea Bay University Health Board.

**1) How many cases of opiod misuse/abuse did the health board deal with/treat (hospital admittances, A&E and GP) in each of the last 3 financial years - 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19?**

Please find below the number of patients admitted to our hospitals:

Financial admission year	Admissions
2016/17	98
2017/18	86
2018/19	50

We would not hold the detail in relation to opiods within our A&E system. Our A&E system would only record overdose/self harm or drug abuse. Therefore to obtain this information would involve a manual trawl and search of records which we have estimated would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI Act as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOI Act provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any



**Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR**

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

GP information would be held by individual GP practices.

2) **Does the health board keep a register of opiod prescriptions, including from pharmcies and including repeat prescriptions?**

No

3) **If 'yes' to Q2), how many opiod prescriptions were there in total in each of the last 3 financial years - 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19?**

No applicable

4) **How many repeat opiod prescriptions were there in each of the last 3 financial years - 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19?**

Unfortunately we are unable to provide prescription numbers, or differentiate between repeat or acute prescriptions. However, we can provide the number of prescription items but these do not directly correlate to prescription numbers.

Financial Year	Number of prescription items (i.e. number of items listed on a specific prescription, it does not refer to numbers of tablets etc.)
2016-17	197130
2017-18	196591
2018-19 (April 18-Feb 19)	182441

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger  
**Director of Corporate Governance**

