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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Mark Hackett**

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: 3rd March 2021
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-A-040

01639 648363

FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[REDACTED]

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

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 28th January 2021. Your request sought information relating to COVID-19.

Reference - Covid 19 statistics and actual bed occupancy information for Morriston; Port Talbot; Singleton and Bridgend hospitals. Gender, age and co-morbidities. Death from Covid or with Covid.

Please note that since 1st April 2019, Bridgend no longer falls under the remit of our Health Board. Therefore we have only provided information for current Swansea Bay sites, excluding Bridgend sites.

1. Monthly rate of deaths due to Covid 19 from March 2020 until January 2021.

You clarified on 17th February 2021 that you by "monthly rate" you require a breakdown of the figures per month.

Identify in those numbers those having died

a) with Covid

Please note that we have defined patients that died "with" Covid as those who died within 28 days of a positive test result. Please see attached Appendix 1 for a monthly breakdown.

b) of Covid

I can confirm that Swansea Bay University Health Board does not hold the information on patients that died only of COVID-19 with no other contributing factors. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) provide us with data relating to COVID deaths where COVID-19 is mentioned anywhere on the death certificate,



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

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including as a contributing factor.

However, we are able to provide a figure for deaths in our hospitals where COVID-19 was listed on the death certificate either as the cause of death or a contributing factor. Please see Appendix 1.

We are not able to split this data further in order to exclude contributing factors to death, therefore we recommend that you contact the ONS, who may be able to provide this breakdown for you on foi.team@ons.gov.uk.

2. The age groups, dominant pre-existing conditions of Covid fatalities and relevance of co-morbidities.

Please note that we are not able to provide you with a breakdown of "pre-existing conditions" and "co-morbidities" for these patients. To obtain this information would involve a manual trawl and search of patient 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 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.

Please see attached appendix for a break down by age group.

3. Going back to 2015 the bed occupancy numbers for the winter months in critical care and intensive care units. Please highlight any increases. Occupancy percentages and rates.

Please note that for "winter months" we have used the period of December to March each year.

Please see Appendix 2.

4. The amount of DNR and end of life plans and withdrawal of treatment to patients identified above as per legislation.

You clarified on 28th January 2021 that you are asking for this information in relation to the patients referenced in question 1.

I can confirm that this information is not held centrally. Do Not Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (DNACPR) paperwork and End of Life care plans are completed by hand and kept within patient notes. To obtain this information would involve a manual trawl and search of patient notes 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 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.

5. The age groups, sex and ethnicity of above mentioned patients.

You clarified on 28th January 2021 that you are asking for this information in relation to the patients referenced in question 1.

Please see Appendix 1.



I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at 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.

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), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



On behalf of

Pam Wenger

Director of Corporate Governance

