



Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg. Atebir gohebiaeth Gymraeg yn y Gymraeg, ac ni fydd hyn yn arwain at oedi.  
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English. Welsh language correspondence will be replied to in Welsh, and this will not lead to a delay.

Dyddiad/Date: 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-I-011

📞 01639 684363

📧 FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk  
Corporate Services  
Headquarters  
1 Talbot Gateway  
Baglan  
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Your request sought information relating to PCR tests and COVID.

- 1) The number of cycle phases a PCR test is run through. If this number has changed, what was the original number and what date was this process amended.**

The Health Board does not hold this information. All information on COVID-19 amplification cycles is held by Public Health Wales. May I recommend you contact Public Health Wales : [foi.phw@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:foi.phw@wales.nhs.uk) or refer to their disclosure log ref: 658 <https://www2.nphs.wales.nhs.uk/DisclosureLog.nsf/byMonthPage?OpenPage> for information on PCR cycle phases.

- 2) The percentage of hospitalised patients from 01/06/2021 to 31/08/2021 admitted for Covid related health issues who have had double covid vaccinations. On the 15<sup>th</sup> September you clarified that by 'covid related' you meant any patients who tested positive 21 days or less up to their admission date for covid or a related symptoms (i.e. fever, cough, respiratory issues – excluding non-related issues such as heart attached, broken bone etc)**

Please note that we are not able to provide some of the information you have requested. In order to find the number of patients suffering from "covid-related" symptoms on admission, this would require 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 and The Freedom of



Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 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.

However, we have provided you with the percentage of hospitalised patients who tested positive for COVID-19 in the period 21 days prior to admission to 7 days after admission, who had been double vaccinated. If more than one test is recorded prior to the admission, the earliest test is used in the calculations.

44.84%

**3) The percentage of hospitalised patients from 01/06/2021 to 31/08/2021 admitted for Covid related health issues who have had no covid vaccination. On the 15th September you clarified that by 'covid related' you meant any patients who tested positive 21 days or less up to their admission date for covid or a related symptoms (i.e. fever, cough, respiratory issues – excluding non-related issues such as heart attached, broken bone etc)**

Please note that we are not able to provide some of the information you have requested. In order to find the number of patients suffering from "covid-related" symptoms on admission, this would require 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 and The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 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.

However, we have provided you with the percentage of hospitalised patients who tested positive for COVID-19 in the period 21 days prior to admission to 7 days after admission, who had not been vaccinated. If more than one test is recorded prior to the admission, the earliest test is used in the calculations.

48.02%

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: 0330 414 6421.

Yours sincerely



P. a. wenger

Pam Wenger  
**Director of Corporate Governance**

