

Executive Corridor
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX
Switchboard Tel: 01325 38 0100
Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 01.18.31

Direct line: 01325 743700
Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

1 February 2018

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 18 January 2018 in relation to the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (Trust). We are dealing with your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested information regarding assault related injury. Specifically you asked for:

We are conducting an annual national study of attendances to Emergency Departments for assault-related injury and would be grateful if your hospital/s could provide us with attendance data for 2017. This data will be used, as in previous years, to analyse trends in violence in England and Wales from injury perspective. You can read more about the group and how your data has been used by following this link: <http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/violence-research-group>

The data we require are as follows (for period 1st January 2017 and 31st December 2017) in an electronic format that allows us to read the data into a database. Many hospitals respond to our survey and provide data in the form we require. Preferably this format is in an excel file or comma separated text file.

We require the gender of the patient (M or F), the date that they attended due to assault (dd/mm/yyyy) and their age. Age can either be numerical to the nearest year (preferred) or in age bands ("0-10", "11-17", "18-30", "31-50", "51+"), we can also accept date of birth.

To calculate the level of assault-related injury in England and Wales we also require the total number of attendances for any reason in the year of interest, i.e. 2017.

The Data Protection Act places restrictions on what data can be shared. It is the view of nearly 150 hospitals in England and Wales that the data we are requesting (age,

date of attendance and gender) do not constitute personal information and that it is not realistic to expect that information to be used to discover an individual's identity.

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust replies:

Attached is the data as requested, with the following exception:

Data is only available from 01/01/2017 to 23/11/2017 due to the introduction of the new information system. It is currently not possible to extract this data from the new system due to the fields populated. This is being reviewed and will be resolved as soon as possible.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust website.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review by writing to:

The Chief Executive
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX

If, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.gov.uk.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer