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Darlington  
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Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625  
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 09.19.29

Direct line: 01325 743700  
Email: [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net)

Email only

10 October 2019

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information**

Thank you for your request for information received on 12 September 2019 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 DNAR notices. Specifically you requested information as follows:

***‘How many patients admitted to UHND from 2018 to 2019 were put on palliative end of life care? Also how many had advanced directive DNAR notices put on patients – were they discussed with patients who had capacity, was it discussed with the families?’***

### **County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust replies:**

Information from our nursing care system, Nerve Centre, suggests that 572 patients were referred for end of life care between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. This is an approximate response to your request as Nerve Centre captures the referral, not necessarily the outcome of that referral.

The Trust does not hold the remainder of the information requested in a readily accessible format. Whilst the care plan and DNACPR status for an individual patient would be recorded, our coding systems do not allow us to run queries to identify and aggregate the numbers involved and it is not feasible, within the Section 12 statutory limit, to examine volumes of patient notes to manually identify and calculate those numbers. There are thousands of sets of notes which would need to be manually examined by a member of staff and this would take a number of weeks to accomplish.

Therefore, we are refusing this section of your request for information pursuant to section 12 of the Act on the grounds that we estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit at the present time is £450.00 which equates to eighteen hours of work by a member of staff at the rate of £25 per hour.

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](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

**Joanna Tyrrell**  
Freedom of Information Officer