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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: 01.20.33

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

Email only

17 February 2020

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

Thank you for your request for information received on 20 January 2020 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 sepsis. Specifically you requested information as follows:

- 1. What percentage of patients with suspected sepsis were treated with antibiotics within one hour in a) 2019 and b) 2018?***
- 2. Please provide the above figure as a raw number – what was the total number of patients with suspected sepsis who were treated with antibiotics within one hour in a) 2019 and b) 2018?***
- 3. What was the total number of patients with suspected sepsis who waited longer than an hour for antibiotics in a) 2019 and b) 2018?***
- 4. If possible, please state the longest delay for a patient with suspected sepsis before receiving antibiotics in a) 2019 and b) 2018?***

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

We cannot provide accurate and complete information for the whole of the patient population treated in each year as the information requested is not centrally recorded. In order to gather the information requested it would take one member of staff in excess of the statutory timescale. We are therefore 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.

The Trust has undertaken sample audits to assess its compliance with the requirement to provide antibiotics in one hour. The overall results of these audits are summarised below. You may find this information helpful.

Year		Number	%	Year		Number	%
2017/18	Sample	675	100%	2018/19	Sample	680	100%
	Within 1 hr	623	92%		Within 1 hr	621	91%
	Over 1 hr	52	8%		Over 1 hr	59	9%

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