County Durham and Darlington NHS

NHS Foundation Trust

Request for Information Reference: 12.20.32

Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net
Email only

19 January 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 17 December 2020 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to respiratory conditions and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

Since 1 March 2020 up to the present day (17th December 2020) please can you tell me how many patients with respiratory conditions were admitted to Covid-19 wards at the Trust?

Please include the date they were admitted. Please can you also tell me how many of these patients were tested for Covid-19 - please also include the date of the first test, the date of the result and whether the result was positive or negative?

If you are unable to answer these questions, please could you tell me how many patients with respiratory conditions were admitted to Covid-19 wards at the Trust and how many of these patients tested positive for Covid-19 before they were admitted to a Covid-19 ward?

In order to answer your request concerning patients with respiratory conditions we have selected patients that have been coded using the Healthcare Resource Group (HRG) chapter DZ which covers both adult respiratory diagnoses and thoracic and respiratory procedures for patients of all ages. This can be only coded on discharge so the data provided is for all patients discharged up to and including 30 November 2020.
There were 3607 patients admitted as a non-elective patient and discharged between 01 March 2020 and 30 November 2020.

Of these, 88 were identified as having a positive Covid-19 test result.

safe • compassionate • joined-up care

Please see the attached spreadsheet for admission dates for all patients and the dates of results and the Covid-19 status.

The Trust has had to manage the beds flexibly during this pandemic and as such the wards that receive Covid-19 patients flex to meet demand. The process on admission is that a patient is tested to determine their Covid-19 status, this is done either in the emergency department or in the acute admissions unit. Once the result has been received if it is positive, the patient is moved to a ward area that has been designated as a Covid-19 ward. If the result is negative the patient is moved to an area that does not have any Covid-19 patients on it. Therefore, no patients with a negative test result would be on a Covid-19 ward.

Of the 88 patients;
- 6 were admitted to ITU,
- 42 were admitted to an acute medical unit, where they would have been assessed and moved to an appropriate ward,
- 39 were admitted to a Covid-19 ward,
- 1 patient was admitted to a respiratory ward and isolated appropriately

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 on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer