

Executive Corridor
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX
Switchboard Tel: 01325 38 0100

Request for Information Reference: 02.21.59

Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

6 April 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 5 March 2021 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 Needlestick injuries and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

1. What is the size of the Trust in terms of number of beds?

991, spread across 8 hospital sites.

2. Please provide the number of needle stick (sharps) injuries reported within the Trust for the following NHS years:

Year (April to March)	Number of reported needle stick (sharps) injuries
April 2017 – March 2018	117
April 2018 – March 2019	120
April 2019 – March 2020	100

3. How many subcutaneous (SC) infusion procedures were conducted by your Trust in the following NHS years:

April 2017 - March 2018

April 2018 – March 2019

April 2019 – March 2020

The Trust does not centrally record this information and estimates that it would take a significant amount of time to provide the information requested. In order to collate this information it would require a member of staff to manually examine the sets of patient's notes for the entire community which we serve which is 600,000 patients. 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.

The Trust can, however, provide the following figures with regards to the number of subcutaneous or gravity/giving sets ordered by the Trust for the specified years. Please note that this is not anticipated to be reflective of the number of subcutaneous infusions given in the time periods specified.

Year (April to March)	number of subcutaneous or gravity/ giving sets ordered
April 2017 – March 2018	315449
April 2018 – March 2019	347905
April 2019 – March 2020	183784

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. I am sorry that I have not been able to provide all of the information you requested, however I hope that my explanation as to why this is not possible has been satisfactory. 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.cddffoi@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