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Request for Information Reference: 03.21.39

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 19 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 structured judgment reviews and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

1. Please can you tell me how many Structured Judgment Reviews (SJRs) the Trust has carried out since 1st January 2020 and how many of these reviews involved the death of a patient with hospital acquired Covid?

The Trust has not carried out any SJR since 1st January 2020.

2. If the Trust does not use the SJR method, please can you give me the numbers for the equivalent method you use e.g. a Serious Incident?

The Trust uses the PRISM2 Methodology. There were 65 reviews of care which meet the criteria you have provided.

For the avoidance of doubt, when I refer to hospital-acquired Covid I am referring to both probable cases (a positive test 8-14 days after admission) and definite cases (testing positive 15 days or more after admission).

3. What was the outcome of the SJRs (or SIs, if the SJR system is not used)? For each SJR please give a brief summary of outcome e.g. any particular processes that were changed, any conclusion as to what went wrong)?

Although the mortality reviews are held centrally on a mortality review system the member of staff extracting the information requested would be required to manually each of the 65 reviews and extract the data, and then pull it all together to present as requested, which the Trust estimates would take a substantial amount of time. 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 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.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