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Request for Information Reference: 08.21.05

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Email only

26th August 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 3rd August 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 Covid-19 Vaccines Administered, Discarded and/or Thrown Away and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

Please provide figures and information for the time period starting from when the UK vaccine-roll out began in December 2020 - Present.

In agreement with the local clinical commissioning groups, the Trust focused on vaccinating the health and social care workforce.

1. The total number of single Covid-19 vaccine doses administered by all health authorities within your trust each month, broken down by manufacturer, e.g. AstraZeneca, Pfizer and Moderna.

Month	Number of doses
December 2020	1695
January 2021	15341
February 2021	2479
March 2021	12565
April 2021	8602
May 2021	69
June 2021	206

2. The total number of single vaccine doses that have been wasted or discarded at vaccine hubs controlled by your trust each month, broken down by manufacturer, e.g. AstraZeneca, Pfizer and Moderna.

3. Please state the reasons for this wastage or discarding, e.g. dropped or contaminated vials; human error in the preparation process; expired stock; leftover doses; and faulty syringes.

Pfizer		
Month	Quantity	Reason
December 2020	6 doses	Unknown
January 2021	16 doses	Leftover at end of sessions
January 2021	6 doses	Discarded due to lack of vial integrity (no resistance when reconstituted)
January 2021	34 doses	Expired stock
March 2021	6 doses	Discarded due to bung in vial*
March 2021	6 doses	*Discarded due to bung in vial
April 2021	2 doses	Leftover at end of session
April 2021	6 doses	*Discarded due to bung in vial

* 'Bung in Vial - there are six doses of vaccine in each Pfizer vial. The vaccinator extracts a single dose by inserting a hollow needled syringe. The insertion should be done on the diagonal. If not (and the needle is inserted vertically), this can lead to a fragment of the rubber bung becoming dislodged and landing in the vial of vaccine itself. On the rare occasion when this happens, the vial needs to be discarded.

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
Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator