

Reference Number: FOI202223/529
From: Other
Date: 16 January 2023
Subject: Attendances to Emergency Departments for assault-related injury

We are conducting an annual national study of attendances to Emergency Departments for assault-related injury and will be grateful if your department could provide us with attendance data for 2022.

The data we require are as follows (for period 1st January 2022 and 31st December 2022) in an electronic format that allows us to read the data into a database. Many hospitals respond to our survey and provide data in the form we require. Preferably this format is in an excel file or comma separated text file.

Data required (for period between 1st January 2022 and 31st December 2022)

Q1 We require the gender of the patient (M or F), the date that they attended due to assault (dd/mm/yyyy) and their age. Age can either be numerical to the nearest year (preferred) or in age bands ("0-10", "11-17", "18-30", "31-50", "51+"), we can also accept date of birth.

A1 [Please see attached document: FOI 529 Response](#)

Q2 To calculate the level of assault-related injury in England and Wales we also require the total number of attendances for any reason in the year of interest, i.e., 2022.

A2 [Please see attached document: FOI 529 Response](#)

Q3 Please also include the names of hospitals (including Minor Injury Units and Walk-in Centres) providing assault data.

A3 [Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust is a specialist children's hospital that is single site only](#)

The Trust is unable to respond to all or specific elements of your request where the response would indicate five or less individuals. The Trust is withholding this information under Section 40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 to reduce the risk of any individuals being identified. The Trust is of the view that disclosure of such information would significantly increase the risk of individuals being identified and as such would constitute a breach of their personal data.

The Trust has applied exemption Section 40(2) of the FOIA and is therefore withholding the information as disclosure which may identify an individual would breach their rights under the Data Protection Act 2018. The grounds for application of this exemption include:

- Any data relating to patients or staff is third party data, furthermore health data is classified as sensitive personal data within the Data Protection Act 2018. As such, Section 40 (2) of the FOIA applies along with the Trusts duty of confidentiality. Therefore under s.2 (3) (f) (ii)

of the FOIA, there is an absolute exemption from disclosure on the grounds that it would contravene the First Data Protection Principle.

- The Trust has a duty under the Data Protection Act 2018 and specifically the First Data Protection Principle to ensure personal data regarding staff and patients is processed fairly and lawfully. Disclosure of such data which may identify an individual, either through the data alone or other data in conjunction with that data which may identify an individual would therefore breach this principle.
- The Data Protection Act 2018 defines sensitive personal data to include data relating to the “physical or mental health or condition” of a person. Any such information about specific individuals falls within this category and disclosure of such data including statistical data, with any potential likelihood of identification would breach the Data Protection Act 2018.

Q1: A&E Attendances related to an Assault in 2022

Years	Arrival Date	Female	Male	
2022	Jan	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.	12	
	Feb		6	
	Mar		9	
	Apr		9	
	May		6	
	Jun	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.	
	Jul	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.		6
	Aug	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.	
	Sep	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.	
	Oct		9	
	Nov		6	

		Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.
	Dec		
Grand Total		61	110

Q1: By Age Band

AgeBand	0-10	11-17	Grand Total
Total		8	163
			171

Q2: A&E Attendances

Years	Arrival Date	Total
2022	Jan	5002
	Feb	5008
	Mar	6430
	Apr	5413
	May	6038
	Jun	5698
	Jul	5553
	Aug	4201
	Sep	4985
	Oct	6015
	Nov	6610
	Dec	7420
Grand Total		68,373

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