

Ref: FOI/2024/10321

Date Received: 22nd November 2024

Response Due: 20th December 2024

Date: 18th December 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 22nd November 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I kindly request the following information regarding incidents and admissions related to slipping or falling on snow or ice.

1. Data Requested:

Please provide the number of incidents recorded in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 that are classified under the following codes or descriptions:

- **ICD-10 5th Edition:**
 - **Volume 3 – Alphabetical Index – External Causes of Injury:**
 - **Fall, falling (accidental):**
 - **Down:**
 - Ramp (involving ice or snow)
 - Stairs, steps (involving ice or snow)
 - **From, off:**
 - Incline (involving ice or snow)
 - Ramp (involving ice or snow)
 - Stairs, steps (involving ice or snow)
 - **In, on:**
 - Ramp (involving ice or snow)
 - Staircase, stairs, steps (involving ice or snow)
 - **Same level NEC:**
 - Involving ice or snow
 - **Slipping (accidental) (on same level) (with fall):**
 - On ice

- **Volume 1 – Tabular List:**
 - **Chapter XX: External Causes of Morbidity and Mortality**
 - **V01–X59: Accidents**
 - **W00–X59: Other External Causes of Accidental Injury**
 - **W00–W19: Falls**
 - **W00: Fall on Same Level Involving Ice and Snow**
- **If ICD-10 is not used, then ICD-11 codes:**
 - **ICD-11 for Mortality and Morbidity Statistics:**
 - **PA60: Unintentional Fall on the Same Level or from Less Than 1 Metre**
 - **XE3LV: Snow, Ice**
- **If neither ICD-10 nor ICD-11 codes are used:**
 - **The number of incidents where slipping or falling on/off ice or snow was mentioned.**

2. For Each Relevant Incident, Where Possible, Please Include:

- **A breakdown by year/month.**

Month	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	73	<5	6	12
February	15	<5	<5	<5
March	<5	<5	<5	0
June	0	0	0	<5
November	<5	0	<5	19
December	<5	54	7	0

- **A breakdown by age.**

Age Group	No. of Patients
< 20	10
21 – 40	29
41 – 60	65
61 – 80	82
80 +	21

- **A breakdown by gender.**

Gender	No. of Patients
Female	105
Male	102

- **A brief description of the injuries sustained.**

The Trust is unable to provide this data as it is not recorded centrally, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

*This information has been retrieved using the ICD-10 code of W00 for inpatients and using the “presenting complaint” in A&E for any patients that were seen due to a slip/fall on ice/snow. Inpatient episodes and A&E attendances have been compiled in the response.

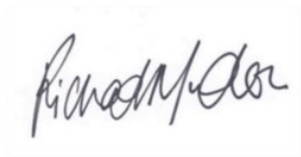
The Trust has a standard procedure of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

To disclose this information would:

- a) Contravene the Data Protection Act principles in that it would amount to unfair and possibly unlawful processing, as there was a legitimate expectation by the third parties that this information would remain confidential, and
- b) Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Mundon
Deputy Chief Executive

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111