

Ref: FOI/2024/10349

Date Received: 2nd December 2024

Response Due: 2nd January 2025

Date: 31st December 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 2nd December 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold part of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

I am writing to submit a new FOI request about Hepatitis B and D within your Trust.

- 1. a) How many Hepatitis B surface antigen positive (HBsAg, ICD 10 codes B18.0 and B18.1) patients do you have registered with the trust?**
197.
- b) How many of these patients have been seen in the last 12 months?**
35.
- 2. How many patients have been registered in the last year with a new diagnosis of chronic HBV (ICD-10 codes B18.0 and B18.1) at the trust?**
23.
- 3. a) How many HDV patients (ICD 10 code B18.0 - chronic viral hepatitis B with delta agent) do you have registered with the trust?**
<5.
- b) How many of these patients have been seen in the last 12 months?**
<5.
- c) How many of these patients have ever been treated with pegylated interferon (PEG IFN)?**
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.

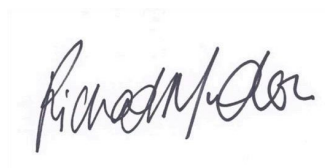
The Trust has a standard procedure of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

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