

Information Governance Department

Suite 9

Buckingham Row

Brick Kiln Lane

Wigan

WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk

Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2023/8869

Date Received: 3rd May 2023

Response Due: 2nd June 2023

Date: 24th May 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

I am writing a request for information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please could you provide me with:

1. Numbers of people who have been diagnosed with Fibromyalgia from 2019 to 2023.

Number of People Diagnosed with Fibromyalgia					
Gender	Years				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Female	26	23	25	53	16
Male	<5	<5	0	5	5

Please note – The data provided is the number of patients who have been admitted with a primary diagnosis of Fibromyalgia (M797) over the period requested. We are unable to produce the overall figures as some patients may not get admitted and are only seen in out-patient appointments. We are unable to capture these patients when they are diagnosed.

2. How much, in terms of waiting times, did it take to have a diagnosis of Fibromyalgia.

We do not record data to this level of detail.

3. Please provide me with a breakdown per gender and year.

Please see response to question 1 above.

Refusal Notice: Sec 40(2) Personal Information

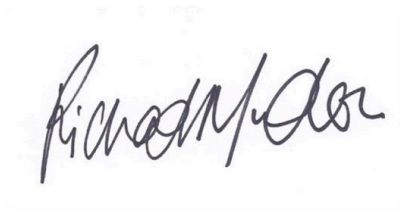
The Trust has a policy of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

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
Director of Strategy and Planning

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