

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference Fol/22/482
Manual Handling

I am requesting baseline data from 2018 to 2022 regarding clinical staff who have sustained a workplace musculoskeletal disorder (MSD's) / injury in the NHS per healthcare organisation
Please detail the:

1. Number of workplace MSD's / injuries per 1000 clinical staff?

	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
Absence Reason	Absences	Salary Cost	Absences	Salary Cost	Absences	Salary Cost	Absences	Salary Cost	Absences	Salary Cost
Back Problems	11	£20,978	13	£32,083	34	£55,332	41	£59,715	26	£52,536
Other musculoskeletal problems	23	£38,397	24	£48,341	71	£149,022	46	£93,041	43	£142,011
Grand Total	34	£59,375	37	£80,424	105	£204,354	87	£152,756	69	£194,547

2. Body locations for the reported workplace MSD's / injury?

Please see the above table.

3. Number of moving and handling / safe patient handling facilitators for each clinical environment?

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) does not hold this information. Under Section 16 of the FOIA, which provides us with the duty to advise and assist, the UHB can inform you that all patient handling clinical staff receive patient handling training. In addition to this the UHB have recently implemented a Manual Handling Workplace Competency Assessment Programme whereby a signed off assessor can monitor staff training requirements in their areas and undertake competency assessments in line with set manual handling criteria.

4. Number of RIDDOR reportable workplace MSD's / injury reported?

RIDDOR Accident Category	01/04/21-31/03/22	01/04/22 to (14/10/22)
Manual Handling	33	15

Staff RIDDOR (incident code)	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21
Lifting/Manual handling	30	32	29	29

Please note: The UHB no longer have access to the previous Datix system which is prior to March 2022, so this data has been collated from annual reports. To provide data within the cost of compliance the UHB have to allow for some filtering of the codes when searching. Whilst this is kept as broad as possible it does rely on relatively correct incident reporting and completion of the Datix record.

5. Average sickness absence cost including replacement staff?

Please see table provided to question 1.

Please note: that the indicated absence costs are an estimate of salary paid to staff absent through work-related musculoskeletal injury only. It is not possible to provide any indication of any replacement costs.

6. Number of litigation cases and associated settlement costs?

In completing a search for the information requested, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) has confirmed that this information is not centrally recorded or collated. To retrieve the information requested would require a manual search through individual records and the UHB considers that this would exceed the limit set within regulations for responding to a request. The UHB has therefore relied upon the Section 12 exemption ('Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit') of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is refusing your request.

The UHB has estimated that to complete the work needed to respond to this request would exceed the time limit as set within regulations to respond to a Freedom of Information Act request. Under the Act there is an allowance of two and a half days, or 18 hours, to comply with a request and the cost limit set within the fees' regulations for this amount of work (18 hours) is £450 for the UHB. The fees regulations specify that the cost of complying with a request must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour.

However, under Section 16 of the FOIA, which provides us with the duty to advise and assist, the UHB can inform you of the below:

- 2020 to 2021: **37 Cases Closed** = £326,055
- 2021 to 2022: **46 Cases Closed** = £1,092,986
- 2022 to 2023 to date: **43 Cases Closed** = £521,479

Please note: The information above shows the costs of all Personal Injury Claims closed in the period and includes cases settled and defended.