

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/166

Fibromyalgia

Information Requested:

I am submitting this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I would like all relevant information relating to:

- How many people in your health board have been diagnosed with fibromyalgia as of March 2023
- How many people in your health board have been diagnosed with fibromyalgia over the past 5 years – please provide the data relating to; 2018; 2019; 2020; 2021; 2022
- How many people in your health board receive treatment for fibromyalgia as of March 2023

Response Details

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.

Under our Section 16 obligation, the duty to provide advice and assistance, the UHB can advise that the majority of fibromyalgia patient's care and treatment would be provided in either the primary care setting or as an outpatient. Whilst the UHB collates data at the point of discharge for inpatient and daycase admissions, this does not extend to the outpatient setting.