

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference Fol/23/395
Death of Detained Patients

Information Requested:

Please find attached a freedom of information request in relation to the deaths of patients detained under the Mental Health Act 1983.

For the time periods contained in cells B-F please provide statistical information relating to individuals who died whilst receiving in-patient psychiatric care at any facility in your jurisdiction. Please provide the total for the 5-year period in cell G. If you are unable to provide all the information request please provide as much information as possible.	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	Total
1. How many individuals died whilst receiving in-patient psychiatric care?	30	26	31	32	38	157
2. How many of the individuals who died whilst receiving in-patient psychiatric care were detained under the Mental Health Act 1983?	*	*	*	*	*	15
3. How many detained patients:						
a) Died from self-inflicted causes	*	*	*	*	*	*
b) Died from natural causes	*	*	*	*	*	*
c) Died during or after being restrained by medical staff or police called to assist medical staff	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Of the detained patients who died from self-inflicted causes how many were:						
a) White						
b) BAME						
c) Not known/ not stated						

5. Of the detained patients who died from self-inflicted causes and were BAME how many were:						
a) Black						
b) Asian						
c) Mixed ethnicity. Where possible please break this down into:						
(i) Mixed White/Black						
(ii) Mixed White/Asian						
d) Other ethnic group						
6. Of the detained patients who died from natural causes how many were:						
a) White						
b) BAME						
c) Not known/ not stated						
7. Of the detained patients who died from natural causes and were BAME how many were:						
a) Black						
b) Asian						
c) Mixed ethnicity. Where possible please break this down into:						
(i) Mixed White/Black						
(ii) Mixed White/Asian						
d) Other ethnic group						
8. Of the detained patients who died during or after being restrained by medical staff or police how many were:						
a) White						
b) BAME						
c) Not known/ not stated						

9. Of the detained patients who died during or after being restrained by medical staff or police and were BAME how many were:						
a) Black						
b) Asian						
c) Mixed ethnicity. Where possible please break this down into:						
(i) Mixed White/Black						
(ii) Mixed White/Asian						
d) Other ethnic group						

Response Details:

In response to questions 4-9:

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) owes a duty of confidence under common law in respect of the patient health data it holds for the provision of healthcare. This duty persists beyond a patient's death. Disclosures under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 represent disclosures into the public domain. Therefore, disclosures of such health data into the public domain may constitute an actionable breach of confidence.

This includes disclosure where the information sought relates to a small cohort of patients. In such cases, even confirmation that an answer may relate to a low number of patients could in itself confirm information about an individual patient. This may not be apparent to a requester, but it may enable other individuals (particularly those who may already have greater insight into an individual's circumstances) to establish further information about an individual.

We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.