

2nd July 2021

Eastbourne District General Hospital
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Tel: 0300 131 4500
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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

- The number of patients that presented to Accident & Emergency/the Emergency Department due to issues relating to Eating Disorders from 01/01/16 to 31/12/20. Data given separately for each calendar year 2016-2020.**

Please see the table below for the number of attendees to East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust's Emergency Departments due to issues relating to Eating disorders:

Calendar Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Grand Total
Attendances	2	4	2	10	45	63

- The number of patients from point 1 who were discharged home without being seen by psychiatry, and the number of patients from point 1 who were discharged home without being referred to another service. Data given separately for each calendar year 2016-2020.**

The Trust does not centrally record the number of patients seen by psychiatry. To enable the Trust to provide this information would require a manual review of patients' notes.

Section 12(1) of the Act allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of compliance would exceed the 'appropriate limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations). These state that this cost limit is £450 for public authorities which are not part of central government or the armed forces. The costs are calculated at £25 per hour per person regardless of the rate of pay, which means that the limit will be exceeded if the work involved would exceed 18 hours. The Trust estimates that the cost of complying with this request would significantly exceed the above limit.

Please note that all patient outcomes are notified to the patients GP to follow up if required. This is standard practice across the UK

3. The number of patients from point 1 who died within 28 days of being discharged from A&E, for each year since 2016. Data given separately for each calendar year 2016-2020.

Calendar Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Grand Total
Attendances					1	1

Please note that we are unable to confirm if the patient died as a result of their eating disorder.

Please also note that we do not hold the information in respect of patients that have been discharged and are under the care of mental health, community teams or their GP, so we are unable to answer the above question with any degree of certainty.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
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