

FOI REF: 21/344

27<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex  
BN21 2UD

Tel: 0300 131 4500

Website: [www.esht.nhs.uk](http://www.esht.nhs.uk)

## 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:

1. **How many people have died in your hospitals between 1st February 2020 and 23 June 2021 from COVID19 alone? Please note I do not want to know of deaths within 28 days of a positive COVID19 test, I just want to know the exact figures for death due to COVID 19 alone.**

Clarification was sought asking you to confirm what is meant by 'died from Covid 19 alone'? Do these questions relate to deaths of patients who have died within East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust and have either tested positive for Covid-19 or where Covid-19 is documented as a direct or underlying cause of death on part 1 or part 11 of the death certificate? If linked solely to the death certificate can you please specify whether Covid-19 should be recorded under 1a (main cause) with nothing else listed in 1b (causing 1a), 1c (causing 1b) or 11 please? Someone with underlying health conditions would have a certificate with other medical conditions in 11 so the definition linked solely to the death certificate will not be able to provide the number with underlying health conditions. Confirmation was received as follows:

I am looking for the number of patients who have died within East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust where Covid-19 is documented as the direct cause of death on part 1(a) of the death certificate, i.e. was the main cause of death.

Further clarification was sought asking you to confirm, if linked solely to the death certificate can you please specify whether only Covid-19 should be recorded under part 1a (main cause) or should Covid Pneumonitis be included as well? If the patient has any other causes listed alongside Covid 19 under part 1a (main cause) should these patients be included in the count as well and confirmation was received that you require the following:

Thank you for your clarification. Please provide separate figures for: (i) the number of death certificates where COVID-19 is listed as the main cause in part 1(a); and (ii) the number of death certificates where Covid Pneumonitis is listed as the main cause in part 1(a).

Cont.../

**To confirm again, please disregard any death certificates where any other causes were listed alongside COVID-19 in part 1(a). I am looking for the numbers of deaths which were solely caused by COVID-19 or Covid Pneumonitis.**

- (i) Death Certificate entries on the mortality database with Covid 19 or Covid 19 infection recorded under part 1a only have been counted. Please be aware this information relates to in hospital deaths at Conquest, Eastbourne District General and Bexhill Hospitals.

173 patients, either with or without parts 1b, 1c and 2 of the Death Certificate populated.

- (ii) Death Certificate entries on the mortality database with Covid 19 Pneumonia, Covid 19 Pneumonia, Covid 19 and Bronchopneumonia, Covid 19 Viral Pneumonia and Covid 19 Bilateral Pneumonia recorded under part 1a only have been counted. Please be aware this information relates to in hospital deaths at Conquest, Eastbourne District General and Bexhill Hospitals.

358 patients, either with or without parts 1b, 1c and 2 of the Death Certificate populated.

**2. The Number and Percentage of people with 'underlying health conditions' in the overall total.**

- (i) Caveat as above.

167 patients, 96.53%

- (ii) Caveat as above.

342 patients, 95.53%

**3. The Number and Percentage of those without 'underlying health conditions'.**

- (i) Caveat as above.

6 patients, 3.47%

- (ii) Caveat as above.

16 patients, 4.47%

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](mailto:esh-tr.foi@nhs.net)), quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)  
Corporate Governance Manager  
[esh-tr.foi@nhs.net](mailto:esh-tr.foi@nhs.net)