



FOI REF: 21/354

27<sup>th</sup> August 2021

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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:

**I just want to know the exact figures from 1st February 2020 to 3rd June 2021 for death due to Covid-19 alone.**

**Clarification was sought asking you to confirm what is meant by 'died from Covid 19 and only due to Covid-19'? 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 and confirmation was received that you require the following:**

**In short, the answer is both.**

**My original question (1) and (3) essentially are the same - given the parameters of which you speak, and would relate to deaths of patients who have died within East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust where Covid-19 is documented as a direct cause of death on part 1 of the death certificate.**

**Covid-19 should be recorded under 1a (main cause). There is unlikely to be anything under 1b as nothing causes Covid-19 other than the virus itself.**

**Question (2) would therefore relate to people who have died of Covid-19 as a direct cause under 1a, but have underlying conditions on part 11.**

My original questions (4) and (6) would therefore be the same, essentially, how many children 0-15 have died within East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust where Covid-19 is documented as a direct cause of death on part 1 of the death certificate. Covid-19 should be recorded under 1a (main cause).

Question (5) would relate to children 0-15 who have died of Covid-19 as a direct cause under 1a, but have underlying conditions on part 11.

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? Confirmation was received that you require the following:

To clarify, Covid pneumonitis should NOT be included in the results, as it cannot be proven that the pneumonitis has been caused by the virus.

Any other cause under Part 1a should NOT be included in the results, as this would skew the results.

1. **How many people have died in East Sussex hospitals from Covid-19 and only due to Covid-19?**

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.

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

Caveat as above.

167 patients, 96.53%

3. **The number and percentage of those without 'underlying health conditions'.**

Caveat as above.

6 patients, 3.47%

4. **The number of children aged 0-15 who have died from Covid-19 and only due to Covid-19?**

None.

- 5. The Number and Percentage of young people 0-15, with 'underlying health conditions' in the overall total.**

Not applicable.

- 6. The number and percentage of those young people 0-15, without 'underlying health conditions'.**

Not applicable.

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

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