

FOI REF: 21/649

14th February 2022

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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Eastbourne
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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:

I am writing for information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 2000. All questions pertain to the following dates: 01/12/2019 to 30/11/2021. I would like to know the following:

1.a) How many people have died in your hospitals within 28 days of testing positive for COVID-19?

735.

1.b) Of those people, how many had underlying health conditions / co-morbidities and how many did not? Please provide absolute numbers and percentages.

i) With pre-existing condition(s)	711	96.73%
ii) Without pre-existing condition(s)	24	3.27%

1.c) Please also state the top 5 underlying health conditions / co-morbidities of those people.

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not centrally record the underlying health conditions/co-morbidities of those patients that have died from Covid-19. To enable the Trust to provide this information would require a manual review of patients' notes. We are therefore applying Section 12(1) to this part of your request.

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.

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1.d) Please state how many of those people were vaccinated and how many were not. Please provide absolute numbers and percentages. For vaccinated people, please break down the response in the following way: i) received one dose, ii) received two or more doses.

i) received one dose	34	4.63%
ii) received two or more doses	33 (number continues from above, of the 34 people who received one dose, 33 are recorded as subsequently receiving a second or booster vaccine)	
iii) not vaccinated	4	0.54%
iv) no vaccination status available	755	94.83%

2.a) How many people have died in your hospitals purely and only due to COVID-19?

39 in-hospital deaths with COVID in 1a and nothing in 1b, 1c or 2 on death certificate

2.b) Of those people, how many had underlying health conditions / co-morbidities and how many did not? Please provide absolute numbers and percentages.

i) With pre-existing condition(s)	29	74.36%
ii) Without pre-existing condition(s)	7	17.95%
iii) Data not available	3	7.69%

2.c) Please also state the top 5 underlying health conditions / co-morbidities of those people.

The Trust does not centrally record the underlying health conditions/co-morbidities of those patients that have died from Covid-19. To enable the Trust to provide this information would require a manual review of patients' notes. We are therefore applying Section 12(1) to this part of your request.

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.

2.d) Please state how many of those people were vaccinated and how many were not. Please provide absolute numbers and percentages. For vaccinated people, please break down the response in the following way: i) received one dose, ii) received two or more doses.

i) received one dose	-	-
ii) received two or more doses	-	-
iii) not vaccinated	1	2.56%
iv) no vaccination status available	38	97.44%

Please note that the vaccination status of inpatients was not captured digitally until July 2021.

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

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