

23rd June 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital
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Eastbourne
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Tel: 0300 131 4500
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Further to your recent request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000, I now set out our answers to your specific questions, and any clarifications sought and provided, as follows:

Please provide the following information from the financial years 2020/2021 to the end of the financial year 2025/2026:

- 1) The total number of patients aged under 21 who presented or were referred within your organisation with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of an asbestos-related disease, including but not limited to: mesothelioma, asbestosis, pleural plaques, pleural effusion attributed to asbestos exposure, or diffuse pleural thickening.**

37.

- 2) Please break this figure down by financial year. Where the number of cases in any given year is five or fewer, please state "<5" rather than the exact figure.**

Please see the table below for the number of patients aged under 21 who presented or were referred within East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of an asbestos-related disease, broken down as requested:

Financial Year	Total
2020/2021	8
2021/2022	6
2022/2023	10
2023/2024	7
2024/2025	6
Grand Total	37

- 3) Please confirm whether your organisation holds any coded data for these conditions in patients aged under 21, even if no cases have been recorded during the period.**

Yes, there is coded data for the patients above.

I trust this information is helpful in its detail or explanation however, if you are dissatisfied with the response, then you have the right to request an internal review. If you wish to seek an internal review, please write to the Freedom of Information Team at esh-tr.foi@nhs.net

quoting the above FOI reference number, within 40 working days. Please note the Trust is not obliged to accept a request for an internal review after this time period.

Yours faithfully

Freedom of Information (FOI) Team
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
0300 131 4716
Core Hours of Business: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm