

FOI 1935

12/10/23

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

This request relates to outpatient/community patients discharged by your trust who were being treated for an eating disorder (primary or secondary eating disorder diagnosis; please include all eating disorders, i.e., ICD10 code F50: Eating Disorders).

Question 1: Please state the total number of outpatients / community patients with an eating disorder diagnosis that were discharged from your trust in each of the following years: a) 2018, b) 2019, c) 2020, d) 2021, e) 2022 and f) total 2018-2022 (1 Jan 2018 to 31 Dec 2022).

Response 1:

Our database works on fiscal year and does not break down into detail the numbers of patients who have confirmed diagnosis. The data is based on the total number discharged from the service

2017/2018= 141
2018/2019=134
2019/2020=148
2020/2021=140
2021/2022=178
2022/2023=84

Question 2: Of those, please state the total number of outpatients / community patients with an eating disorder diagnosis that were discharged from your trust with a BMI below 15 in each of the following years: a) 2018, b) 2019, c) 2020, d) 2021, e) 2022 and f) total 2018-2022 (1 Jan 2018 to 31 Dec 2022).

Response 2:

This information is not recorded centrally and therefore retrieving it would involve a manual search of patient records. As such we cannot provide this information as the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. In order to obtain this information from a number of departments it would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

In addition, it would not be appropriate to search through individual patient records for the purposes for responding to a FOI request, there would be no patient expectation that medical records would be used in this way.



Question 3: Of the TOTAL discharged with a BMI below 15 between 1 Jan 2018 and 31 Dec 2022 (i.e., the total you provided in answer to question 2F), please state:

- a) **The number of patients that were discharged from a) a specialist community/outpatient eating disorder service if you have one, and b) general community/outpatient care.**

The data above applies to the Southern Trust Adult Eating Disorder Service

- b) **The number of patients that were a) aged 18 and above, and b) aged below 18.**

The data above applies to those who are 18 and older

- c) **The number of patients who had a BMI of a) 14-14.99, b) 13-13.99, c) 12-12.99 and d) <12**
d) **The exact BMI of the patient discharged with the lowest BMI**
e) **Please provide a breakdown of where patients were discharged to - i.e., inpatient setting / another NHS Trust / palliative care / no onwards care organised by the trust etc. (If data is not recorded or retrievable in this format, please provide any information you have available concerning which NHS or non-NHS treatment/service these patients were discharged to)**

Response 3:

This information is not recorded centrally and therefore retrieving it would involve a manual search of patient records. As such we cannot provide this information as the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. In order to obtain this information from a number of departments it would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

In addition, it would not be appropriate to search through individual patient records for the purposes for responding to a FOI request, there would be no patient expectation that medical records would be used in this way.

Question 4: Please provide any internal Trust documents relating to the treatment of patients with a 'Longstanding Eating disorder' or 'Severe and Enduring Eating disorder' or 'Severe and Enduring Anorexia Nervosa' (otherwise known as 'L-ED' / 'SEED' / SE-AN) in inpatient and outpatients settings.

Response 4:

There are no internal Trust documents relating to the treatment of patients with L-ED/SEED/SE-AN within any of the Trusts in Northern Ireland. Furthermore, there are no official, National guidance documents regarding same. L-ED/SEED/SE-AN is not a formal diagnosis. It is a clinical framework under which patients can be considered on an individual basis.