

FOI 2500

11th September 2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Question:

Can you please list the total number of patients who attended your A&E departments over the last five years, breaking it into hospital and year?

For each of those years can you provide a breakdown of the acuity coding showing the total number who were triaged as Eg 1 immediate emergency care, down to low acuity?

Is there an acuity level which means that patients should not have attended A&E?

Would each Trust have a figure for the number of people who attended A&E (for each of the past 5 years) when their condition would've been better treated elsewhere, ie by a pharmacy?

Response:

Please see below response:

NUMBER OF NEW & UNPLANNED ATTENDANCES TO EMERGENCY CARE ATTENDANCES/MINOR INJURIES BY FISCAL YEAR AND SITE CATEGORISED USING MANCHESTER TRIAGE METHOD

ARRIVAL DATE BETWEEN 01/04/2029 TO 31/03/2024

Arrival Fiscal Year	Manchester Triage	ACH	CAH	CMIU	DHH	MUL	STH	Grand Total
FY2019/2020	1 - Immediate	1	319		317		12	649
	2 - Very Urgent	68	26085		16789		147	43089
	3 - Urgent	59	36617		24927	4	1182	62789
	4 - Standard	30	18650		12361	10	31028	62079
	5 - Non Urgent	2	438		183		353	976
	Not Recorded		408		82			490
FY2019/2020 Total		160	82517		54659	14	32722	170072
FY2020/2021	1 - Immediate	140	151		83	18	2	394
	2 - Very Urgent	9324	15979	2	5114	375	103	30897
	3 - Urgent	8427	23954	35	7218	467	871	40972
	4 - Standard	3995	17556	96	4671	580	20990	47888
	5 - Non Urgent	51	619	2	183	8	19	882
	Not Recorded	28	162	2	8	5		205
FY2020/2021 Total		21965	58421	137	17277	1453	21985	121238
FY2021/2022	1 - Immediate		288		283		1	572
	2 - Very Urgent		26677		16032		88	42797
	3 - Urgent		30443		22881		378	53702
	4 - Standard		20988		15113		22443	58544
	5 - Non Urgent		617		553		1	1171
	Not Recorded		1		2			3
FY2021/2022 Total			79014		54864		22911	156789
FY2022/2023	1 - Immediate		386		376		5	767
	2 - Very Urgent		28611		17514		72	46197
	3 - Urgent		32138		24608		219	56965
	4 - Standard		20712		12782		20577	54071
	5 - Non Urgent		557		348		4	909
	Not Recorded		4		2			6
FY2022/2023 Total			82408		55630		20877	158915
FY2023/2024	1 - Immediate		435		452		12	899
	2 - Very Urgent		28920		18541		69	47530
	3 - Urgent		29692		23328		176	53196
	4 - Standard		21161		11196		20044	52401
	5 - Non Urgent		390		237		1	628
	Not Recorded		10		3			13
FY2023/2024 Total			80608		53757		20302	154667
Grand Total		22125	382968	137	236187	1467	118797	761681

• Review attendances have been excluded as they retained the original priority when revisiting EC/MIU department.

• The Manchester Triage System “Emergency Triage” is used to determine the clinical priority of patients attending Emergency care and Minor Injuries Departments. The Manchester triage tool is not an acuity coding tool it is a tool of clinical risk management: all arriving patients undergo a structured procedure to assess their urgency.

Manchester triage system make use of an assessment of the patients’ presentation and symptoms. It used by clinicians worldwide to enable them to safely manage patient flow when clinical need far exceeds capacity.

Manchester Triage 1 – has Measurement Time of 0 minutes
Manchester Triage 2 – has Measurement Time of 10 minutes
Manchester Triage 3 – has Measurement Time of 1 Hour
Manchester Triage 4 – has Measurement Time of 2 Hours
Manchester Triage 5 – has Measurement Time of 4 Hours

Please see below link to the DOH ED statistics:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/articles/emergency-care-and-ambulance-statistics>

For each of those years can you provide a breakdown of the acuity coding showing the total number who were triaged as Eg 1 immediate emergency care, down to low acuity?

- The Trust does not record an acuity score for those attending Emergency Care or Minor Injuries Departments.

Is there an acuity level which means that patients should not have attended A&E?

- The Trust does not hold this information.

Email: FOI.team@southerntrust.hscni.net