

Trust Headquarters
Russells Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Ref: FOI/010937

With reference to your FOI request that was received on 03/08/2011 in connection with 'Information on pressure sores'.

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is enclosed.

Further information about your rights is also available from the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
Fax: 01625 524510
www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Manager
Room 34a, First Floor, Esk House, Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley, DY1 2HQ
Email: FOI@dgh.nhs.uk

I would like to submit a Freedom of Information request to find out the following information for each of the hospitals that are part of your trust.

For each hospital in your trust we would like to know:

1. The number of patients who developed pressure sores ('pressure necrosis injuries') in the 12 months between June 2010-June 2011, or the last complete calendar year for which you hold data.

Total number of all patients who have presented with or developed a pressure ulcer in trust from Aug 2010 – end of July 2011 = 1727

2. The proportion of these pressure sores that were new, and had therefore occurred since admission to hospital.

The number of ALL hospital acquired pressure ulcers (stage 1-4) for the same period as above = 678

3. A breakdown of the grading for these pressure sores - how many fell into which grade category.

For those admitted with pressure ulcers the figures are 1 = 272, 2=416, 3 = 179, 4 = 182

For those that developed in trust the figures are 1 = 269, 2=316, 3 = 42, 4 = 51.

4. The number of patients admitted from residential or nursing homes with pressure sores .

69 patients were admitted with pressure sores from a residential or nursing home for the period 01/06/2010 to 31/05/2011.

Only the first episode in a patients spell has been looked at to identify patients admitted with pressure sores.

5. The number of death certificates in this period on which pressure sores were mentioned.

The detail on death certificates is held in paper format.

There are approximately 1600 death certificates for this period.It would take over 18 hours to obtain the information for this question.

Calculation:

approximately 1600 certificates x 1 minute per document to retrieve the information = 1600 minutes = 26 hours.

The 45 per cent reduction in the number of hospital-acquired grade one, two, three and four pressure ulcers on the previous quarter follows the Trust's robust pressure ulcer prevention and management plan.

Reportable grade three and four pressure ulcers have also seen a drop of 37 per cent in the same period.

"This is tremendous news for our patients and I want to thank all staff for their hard work in managing and treating pressure ulcers," said Denise McMahon, Director of Nursing.

"Our tissue viability team has put 85 per cent of staff through training and education around pressure ulcer prevention and management.

"Pressure ulcers are at the forefront of everyone's mind and that is reflected in our transparent reporting of grade three and four pressure ulcers."

Tackling pressure ulcers and doing all we can to raise awareness came out of the Listening into Action conversation in December on setting the Quality Priorities for 2011/12.

As a direct result of your feedback, and that of our governors and patient groups, we ran the 'We Love Your Skin' campaign, which involved our six directors modelling parts of the body prone to pressure ulcers for posters displayed around the hospital.