

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: UHB 19-750

6 January 2020

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

1. Please can you supply me with a list of every patient death by sepsis over the last 10 calendar years (removing any person information that might identify the patient if necessary to comply with data protection laws).

Year	Incidents
2015	81 incidences of Sepsis listed as one of the primary causes of death
2016	109 incidences of Sepsis listed as one of the primary causes of death
2017 (January to July)	54 incidences of Sepsis listed as one of the primary causes of death
2017 (August to December)	No data
2018 (January to September)	No data
2018 (October to March)	Incomplete data for this period - 4 incidences of sepsis listed as a primary cause of death, and in one of these incidents, sepsis is secondary to a chest infection.
2018 (April to December)	No data
2019 (January to March)	No data
2019 (April to December)	34 incidences of Sepsis listed as one of the primary causes of death.

Please note that the Trust's database of causes of death which is where the data originated goes back five years. The database is incomplete because of changes in the NHS England requirements for how the Trust should collect data and the data required for mortality.

2. If possible, this should include any internal investigation carried out by the trust, or any notes that give information on what treatment the patient was given before they died.

The Trust does not hold this information. Sepsis is not a category for incident reporting and investigation as it is a physiological condition like any other illness, and therefore not searchable on the Trust's incident reporting system or Serious Incident reporting system.

Please visit the below link: <https://www.sos-insights.co.uk/> for more information about sepsis.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Director of Corporate Governance
University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

FOI Team
UH Bristol NHS Foundation Trust