Patient Safety Incidents

Reference Number: RDF1885-23
Date of Response: 06/10/23

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

To the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust,

1. *I request the number of patient safety incidents that resulted in a severe or death degree of harm to the patients (as defined by NHS England here) and what month and year they took place from 2010 to present please. Can I also have these as two separate figures:*
   a. *one for severe and one for death*
   b. *and a figure of how many deaths there were in total as an incident can refer to more than one death.*

Answer: The Trust has considered your request and holds the data however, while it is possible for this data to be further refined to specifically 'Major' and 'Fatal' incidents, it would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources held on several separate systems, including legacy systems from both services (Northern & Eastern) pre-integration. The specific NHSE/LFPSE 'Fatal' grading of incidents is to replace the current 'Catastrophic', and may not reflect historic grading of those incidents.

To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting that information.

However, to assist in your request please see the table below. In the event of an incident involving the death of more than one patient, an incident would have been raised per individual, and linked during investigation.

Please note there are some caveats to this data as previously in Northern Services 'C.Diff' and 'resus calls/attendances' were recorded on the system. Also, patients with confirmed 'hospital acquired Covid' (whether deceased with Covid on Medical certificate of cause of death or not, or recovered and

discharged) were also recorded Trustwide as incidents - note the considerable spike from November 2020 – January 2021.

Royal Devon			
Month /Year	Fatal/ Catastophic	Major	TOTAL
Jan-10	0	22	22
Feb-10	0	22	22
Mar-10	≤5	11	12 - 16
Apr-10	0	≤5	≤5
May-10	≤5	7	8 - 12
Jun-10	0	10	10
Jul-10	0	13	13
Aug-10	≤5	7	8 - 12
Sep-10	≤5	8	9
Oct-10	0	6	6
Nov-10	0	≤5	≤5
Dec-10	0	≤5	≤5
Jan-11	0	7	7
Feb-11	0	≤5	≤5
Mar-11	0	≤5	≤5
Apr-11	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
May-11	0	10	10
Jun-11	0	12	12
Jul-11	0	≤5	≤5
Aug-11	≤5	7	8 - 12
Sep-11	0	≤5	≤5
Oct-11	≤5	6	7 - 11
Nov-11	0	≤5	≤5
Dec-11	0	7	7
Jan-12	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Feb-12	0	≤5	≤5
Mar-12	≤5	6	7 - 11
Apr-12	0	≤5	≤5
May-12	≤5	7	8 - 12
Jun-12	0	≤5	≤5
Jul-12	0	6	6
Aug-12	0	9	9
Sep-12	0	≤5	≤5
Oct-12	0	8	8
Nov-12	0	6	6
Dec-12	0	12	12
Jan-13	0	≤5	≤5
Feb-13	≤5	8	9 - 13
Mar-13	0	≤5	≤5
Apr-13	≤5	9	10 - 15
May-13	≤5	9	10 - 15
Jun-13	≤5	11	12 - 16
Jul-13	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Aug-13	0	≤5	≤5
Sep-13	0	≤5	≤5

Oct-13	0	6	6
Nov-13	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Dec-13	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jan-14	0	≤5	≤5
Feb-14	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Mar-14	0	≤5	≤5
Apr-14	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
May-14	0	≤5	≤5
Jun-14	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jul-14	0	≤5	≤5
Aug-14	≤5	7	8 - 12
Sep-14	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Oct-14	0	0	0
Nov-14	0	≤5	≤5
Dec-14	0	≤5	≤5
Jan-15	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Feb-15	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Mar-15	0	≤5	≤5
Apr-15	0	≤5	≤5
May-15	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jun-15	≤5	≤5	6
Jul-15	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Aug-15	≤5	≤5	7
Sep-15	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Oct-15	0	≤5	≤5
Nov-15	0	≤5	≤5
Dec-15	≤5	0	≤5
Jan-16	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Feb-16	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Mar-16	0	≤5	≤5
Apr-16	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
May-16	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jun-16	0	≤5	≤5
Jul-16	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Aug-16	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Sep-16	0	≤5	≤5
Oct-16	0	≤5	≤5
Nov-16	0	≤5	≤5
Dec-16	0	≤5	≤5
Jan-17	0	0	0
Feb-17	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Mar-17	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Apr-17	0	6	6
May-17	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jun-17	≤5	7	10
Jul-17	0	≤5	≤5
Aug-17	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Sep-17	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Oct-17	≤5	0	≤5
Nov-17	0	≤5	≤5

Dec-17	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jan-18	≤5	0	≤5
Feb-18	0	≤5	≤5
Mar-18	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Apr-18	0	≤5	≤5
May-18	0	≤5	≤5
Jun-18	0	≤5	≤5
Jul-18	≤5	6	7 - 11
Aug-18	0	≤5	≤5
Sep-18	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Oct-18	0	≤5	≤5
Nov-18	0	≤5	≤5
Dec-18	0	≤5	≤5
Jan-19	0	≤5	≤5
Feb-19	0	≤5	≤5
Mar-19	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Apr-19	≤5	6	7 - 11
May-19	0	≤5	≤5
Jun-19	0	0	0
Jul-19	0	≤5	≤5
Aug-19	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Sep-19	0	≤5	≤5
Oct-19	0	≤5	≤5
Nov-19	0	0	0
Dec-19	0	≤5	≤5
Jan-20	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Feb-20	≤5	0	≤5
Mar-20	0	0	0
Apr-20	0	0	0
May-20	≤5	0	≤5
Jun-20	0	≤5	≤5
Jul-20	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Aug-20	0	≤5	≤5
Sep-20	0	≤5	≤5
Oct-20	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Nov-20	28	≤5	29 - 33
Dec-20	23	≤5	24 - 28
Jan-21	12	0	12
Feb-21	0	≤5	≤5
Mar-21	7	≤5	8 - 12
Apr-21	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
May-21	0	≤5	≤5
Jun-21	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jul-21	≤5	0	≤5
Aug-21	≤5	0	≤5
Sep-21	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Oct-21	0	≤5	≤5
Nov-21	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Dec-21	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jan-22	0	0	0

Feb-22	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Mar-22	≤5	0	≤5
Apr-22	≤5	0	≤5
May-22	≤5	0	≤5
Jun-22	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jul-22	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Aug-22	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Sep-22	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Oct-22	6	≤5	7 - 11
Nov-22	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Dec-22	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jan-23	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Feb-23	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Mar-23	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Apr-23	0	0	0
May-23	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jun-23	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Jul-23	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Aug-23	≤5	≤5	2 - 10
Sep-23	≤5	0	≤5

In accordance with Section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we are unable to provide figures where the number of patients is less than or equal to five and could risk the identification of those patients and breach Caldicott principles. In these cases ≤5 is used to indicate that a figure between 1 and 5 is being suppressed.

Please note that if only one cell required suppression, at least one other number has been suppressed to avoid calculation of suppressed values from the totals. (*if information presented in table format with totals*)

This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, CCG's providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.