

Title Mouth Cancer

Reference Number: RDF2318-24

Date of Response: 06/03/24

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

*1. The number of cases of mouth cancer diagnosed at your Trust in each of the calendar years a) 2023, b) 2022, c) 2021, d) 2020, e) 2019 ***
Mouth Cancer Diagnoses*

*2. The number of cases of mouth cancer in those under eighteen diagnosed at your Trust in each of the calendar years a) 2023, b) 2022, c) 2021, d) 2020, e) 2019 ****

3. The one-year survival rate for mouth cancer at your NHS Trust in each of the calendar years a) 2023, b) 2022, c) 2021, d) 2020, e) 2019.

4. The five-year survival rate for mouth cancer at your NHS Trust in each of the calendar years a) 2023, b) 2022, c) 2021, d) 2020, e) 2019.

5. The one-year survival rate for mouth cancer in those under eighteen at your NHS Trust in each of the calendar years a) 2023, b) 2022, c) 2021, d) 2020, e) 2019.

6. The five-year survival rate for mouth cancer in those under eighteen at your NHS Trust in each of the calendar years a) 2023, b) 2022, c) 2021, d) 2020, e) 2019.

Please see Trust Answer for all questions in this FOI as follows:

The Freedom of Information Act allows the public to ask for copies of information held. The Information requested is not held in reliable reportable documentation within the Trust; therefore, we are unable to release information in response to this Freedom of information request. The following Exemptions have therefore been applied.

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1)

To provide you with the information requested would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources.

There is no field in Epic that definitively states where a Cancer diagnosis was made, as such any figures given would not be accurate, but rather assumptions based on key organisation fields e.g., Faster Diagnosis in a patient's Cancer pathway.

To accurately answer this FOI, the Cancer Services need to manually validate each Mouth Cancer patient recorded in the Trust Electronic Patient Record (Epic). This

would involve 500+ patients. Each patient's record would then need to be checked since the information required can be recorded anywhere in any format (i.e., a letter, a scanned document). 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 determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving, and extracting that information.

Section 40 (2)

As the only data that is held is part of a patient's medical record, it would involve Trust staff checking each patient confidential Electronic Medical record. This data would not be appropriate to release under FOI as it is personal data and would not be lawful or transparent to patients to view their records for this purpose. As such it is exempt under Section 40(2) of the FOI as it is in breach of Principle 1 of the UK GDPR.