

## Anaphylaxis

Reference Number: RDF1998-23

Date of Response: 22/11/23

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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).

I would like to find out:

1. The number of people admitted to your NHS trust for Anaphylaxis.
2. I would like to find out what was the cause of Anaphylaxis (e.g., food or medicine).
3. Can I please request these statistics for the past 5 calendar years.

Answer to questions 1 and 2 can be found below. The information is based on patient cases of Anaphylactic shock per year and the type of shock:

Reason: Anaphylactic shock due to adverse food reaction	
Year	Patient total
2019	12
2020	19
2021	12
2022	11
2023 – year to date	17

Reason: Anaphylactic shock unspecified (allergic shock, reaction etc not specified)	
Year	Patient total
2019	16
2020	13
2021	11
2022	10
2023 - year to date	9

Reason: Anaphylactic shock due to adverse effect of correct drug or medicament properly administered	
Year	Patient total
2019	9
2020	7
2021	16
2022	8
2023 - year to date	6

4. [Can the data be broken down by gender and age?](#)

Section 40, sections 3(a)

Please note: The Royal Devon & Exeter NHS Foundation Trust has carefully considered your request for the information on patients to be broken down by age and gender. It has however declined to provide the specific details of the events under Section 40, sections 3(a) of the Freedom of Information Act.

The Trust recognises that whilst the information requested does not itself identify the patient(s), the questions are asking for very specific and focused details, and due to the low number of cases involved, to provide this detail would create a potential for the patient(s) concerned to be identified.

The Trust believes that the release of such sensitive information meets the definition of personal data, and disclosing the information would contravene one of the data protection principles set out in article 5 of the UK GDPR. As such release of the information would be likely to cause distress to the individuals and families concerned.

5. [The number of deaths caused by Anaphylaxis.](#) There has only been 1 death recorded by the Trust in the last 5 years where the Primary diagnosis was Anaphylaxis. The Trust is unable to provide any further information about this as any release of information could cause distress to the family.