

## Dog Attacks

Reference Number: RDF1148-22

Date of Response: 10/01/2023

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

Please can you provide me with the following information for the (calendar) years: i) 2017 ii) 2018 iii) 2019 iv) 2020 v) 2021 vi) 2022

\*If possible, can an age or age range be provided for each?

- 1) The number of persons who visited A&E in your NHS Trust (North Devon District Hospital and Northern services) for injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?
- 2) How many persons required inpatient treatment for injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?
- 3) How many persons required surgery for injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?
- 4) How many persons suffered fatal injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?

Please see chart below joint North and East of the Trust response to the above question. However please note:-

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

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authorities, wards, postcode districts, CCG's providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

JOINT RESPONSE	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1) <i>The number of persons who visited A&amp;E in your NHS Trust for injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?</i>	478	495	536	498	553	572
2) <i>How many persons required inpatient treatment for injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?</i>	82	84	93	87	80	113
3) <i>How many persons required surgery for injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?</i>	67	66	62	70	57	80
4) <i>How many persons suffered fatal injuries caused by dog bites or attacks?</i>	0	0	*<5	0	0	*<5