

Title

ITU Dr Staffing

Reference Number: RDF1922-23

Date of Response: 07/11/2023

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).

I note that the ITU is covered by "a combination of ICM, medicine and anaesthetic doctors in training and FICM qualified ACCPs". This combination is supported by a resident anaesthetist.

In the period 01 Aug 22 to 31 July 23, on how many occasions did the "combination of ICM, medicine and anaesthetic doctors in training and FICM qualified ACCPs" that was present on ITU not contain a registered medical practitioner? This question explicitly excludes the resident anaesthetist that was present elsewhere in the hospital.

The Trust is unable to answer your question as the data is not held.

Although the Trust can identify when staff are on shift, we do not track our staff and therefore are unable to identify on what occasions we did not have a registered medical practitioner in attendance on ICU. The registered medical practitioners can cover a wider remit than the ICU, this includes the resident anaesthetist who may be based in the ICU for their shift. We are unable to identify when these roles are called to deal with other patients.

At all times, the staffing reflects the needs of the patients in the ICU to ensure appropriate care is given to our patients. The staffing on the ICU always complies with the GPICS standards for critical care provision, which also includes staffing. This is the aspect the CQC use to inspect the Trust in relation to this. Further information on this standard is available online at: <https://ics.ac.uk/resource/gpics-v2-1.html>