

Stillbirth & Infant Deaths

Reference Number: F4843
Date of Response: 26/10/2022

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response, in **blue bold text** below:

Royal Devon's Eastern FOI Office Response

1. Number of stillbirths in total for the period Jan 1 - June 30 2022. **9.**
2. Of those stillbirths, how many of the mothers had received the Covid 19 vaccination?
 - (a) 1 dose
 - (b) 2 doses
 - (c) 2 doses and the booster.

As Covid vaccines are not administered by the Maternity Service, any documentation of doses received in the patient's maternity notes is anecdotal and would only represent her inoculation status at that point in time. As such it is not possible to provide an accurate answer to this question.

3. Of those stillbirths, how many burials/cremations were conducted or handled by the NHS Trust? **This is not information that is held by the Trust as burials/cremations are not conducted by the Trust.**
4. What was the main cause of death among the stillbirths?.
The main cause of death was "Unknown".
5. Of those stillbirths, how many cremations took place on the NHS Trust's grounds?
Nil – cremations do not take place on Trust grounds.
6. Total number of infant deaths where the infant was aged 0-3mths at the time of death during the period 1 Jan – 30 June 2022.
≤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.

7. With regards the infant deaths for the 0-3mth age group, how many of the mothers had received the Covid 19 vaccination?
- (a) 1 dose
 - (b) 2 doses
 - (c) 2 doses and the booster

As Covid vaccines are not administered by the Maternity Service, any documentation of doses received in the patient's maternity notes is anecdotal and would only represent her inoculation status at that point in time. As such it is not possible to provide an accurate answer to this question.

8. With regards the infant deaths for the 0-3mth age group, how many burials/cremations were conducted/handled by the NHS Trust?
- This information is not held by the Trust. Please see response to question 3.**

9. With regards the infant deaths for the 0-3mth old age group, how many cremations took place on the NHS Trust's grounds?. **Nil. Please see answer to question 5.**

10. What was the main cause of death for the infant deaths in the 0-3mth age group?

The Royal Devon & Exeter NHS Foundation Trust has carefully considered your request for information in this question. The Trust holds this; however it has 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 (as in question 6) , 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 concerned.

11. Total number of infant deaths where the infant was aged 3-6mths at the time of death during the period 1 Jan – 30 June 2022. **Nil cases.**

With regards the infant deaths for the 3-6mth age group, how many of the mothers had received the Covid 19 vaccination?

- (a) 1 dose
- (b) 2 doses
- (c) 2 doses and the booster.

This question is not applicable.

12. With regards the infant deaths for the 3-6mth age group, how many burials/cremations were conducted/handled by the NHS Trust? **Nil cases.**
13. With regards the infant deaths for the 3-6mth old age group, how many cremations took place on the NHS Trust's grounds? **Nil. Please see answer to question 5.**
14. With regards the infant deaths for the 3-6mth age group, how many burials/cremations were conducted/handled by the NHS Trust?
This information is not held by the Trust. Please see response to question 3.
15. What was the main cause of death for the infant deaths in the 3-6mth age group? **This question is not applicable. Please see answer to question 11.**