

Reference:	FOI.463.19
Subject:	Addiction to tranquilisers
Date of Request:	2 April 2019

Requested

1. The number of children – under the age of 18 – being treated for addiction to tranquilisers for the financial years 2015-16, 2016-2017, 2017-18 and 2018-19.
2. Please breakdown and detail which drug they were having treatment Such as Xanax – the brand name for the drug alprazolam.
3. Please break down (for each year) and each drug how many of these children were under the age of 10 – under the age of five, under the age of 10, under the age of 15 and under the age of 18?
4. For the same years please can you detail how many people – under the age of 25 – have been treated for addiction to tranquilisers broken down via drug.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) commissions it's single point of contact and brief intervention drug and alcohol services from a third party organisation, Barod.

Barod supports UHB patients through two services, Dyfed Drug and Alcohol Service (DDAS) for patients aged 18 and over and Choices for patients aged under 18. In addition, the UHB, as part of the treatment system, provides structured community interventions for under 18's via the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and 18 – 25's via the Community Drug and Alcohol Team.

The information provided has been provided by both the UHB and Barod, whilst every effort has been made to ensure the patients have only been included once, there could be some duplication of figures.

The UHB can confirm that it had eight patients aged under 18 who were treated for addiction to Benzodiazepines within the requested timeframe, all patients were aged 14-17.

The table below provides the number of patients aged 18 – 25 years old who were treated for addiction to tranquilisers during the requested timeframe. Records show that the addictions were to Alprazolam, Benzodiazepines and Diazepam.

Financial Year	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Total
Number of patients	5	9	14	13	41

Please note the UHB is unable to break these figures down any further due to the risk of patient identification, which would result in the redaction of the requested information in line with Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.