

Reference:	FOI.16364.25
Subject:	Assaults on hospital staff
Date of Request:	14 January 2025

Requested:

- 1a. In the financial years 2022/23, 23/24, and 24/25 (Up to 08.01.25), how many members of clinical staff were physically assaulted by members of the public? Please provide a breakdown by role if it is possible and doesn't exceed the cost threshold, e.g doctors, nurses, physicians, paramedics.
- 1b. Of those clinical staff who were assaulted, how many required hospital treatment as a result of their injuries? Please provide a breakdown by role, if it is possible and doesn't exceed the cost threshold, for the same financial years.
- 1c. How many days of medical leave were granted to members of clinical staff owing to injuries sustained after an assault by a member of the public? Please provide a breakdown by role, if it is possible and doesn't exceed the cost threshold, for the same financial years.
- 2a. In the financial years 2022/23, 23/24, and 24/25 (Up to 08.01.25), how many members of non-clinical staff were physically assaulted by members of the public?
- 2b. Of those who were assaulted, how many required hospital treatment as a result of their injuries?
- 2c. How many days of medical leave were granted to members of non-clinical staff owing to injuries sustained after an assault by a member of the public?

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of the information requested, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The "appropriate limit" represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

The RLDatix Incident Reporting system does not record data separately for clinical and non-clinical staff. Therefore, in order to provide you with the information for questions 1a and 2a, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all incident records where staff members have been assaulted by members of the public, for the requested time periods, to identify the information that may fulfil this part of your request. These records would then need to be scrutinised to identify any information to fulfil the remainder of your request, as it is not collated and recorded centrally.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), which provides an exemption from a public authority's obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

However, under Section 16 of the FoIA, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds within the table below; the number of all staff, both clinical and non-clinical, that were physically assaulted by members of the public,

as recorded on the RLDatix Incident Reporting system, during the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years and the period 1 April 2024 to 8 January 2025, as requested.

Financial year	Number
2022/23	165
2023/24	106
1.4.24 – 8.1.25	48