

Reference:	FOI.13520.24
Subject:	Attendance at Accident and Emergency (A&E) Departments due to assault
Date of Request:	7 January 2024

Requested:

The data we require are as follows (for period 1st January 2023 and 31st December 2023) in an electronic format that allows us to read the data into a database. Many hospitals respond to our survey and provide data in the form we require. Preferably this format is in an excel file or comma separated text file.

1. Data required (for period between 1st January 2023 and 31st December 2023)

We require :

- the gender of the patient (M or F)
- the date that they attended due to assault (dd/mm/yyyy)
- and their age. Age can either be numerical to the nearest year (preferred) or in age bands ("0-10", "11-17", "18-30", "31-50", "51+"), we can also accept date of birth.

2. To calculate the level of assault-related injury in England and Wales we also require the total number of attendances for any reason in the year of interest, i.e., 2023.

Please also include the names of hospitals (including Minor Injury Units and Walk-in Centres) providing assault data.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the information broken down by the date of attendance at A&E Departments due to assault, as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if these details were disclosed. The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA).

Additionally, where the figures in the table have been replaced with an asterisk (*), the UHB is unable to provide you with the exact number of patients due to the low numbers of cases (less than 5), as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the FoIA.

This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)/UK General Data Protection Regulations, as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles of the UK GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore, there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the DPA and UK GDPR define personal data as data that relates to a living individual who can be identified solely from that data or from that data and other information, which is in the possession of the data controller.

However, whilst operating in accordance with the Section 45 Freedom of Information Code of Practice, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance and therefore, provides information below for the 2023 calendar year.

1. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of attendances at the UHB's A&E Departments for assault, by acute hospital, gender and age range, as is recorded on the Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS), during the period 1 January to 31 December 2023.

Hospital	Age range	0-10		11-17		18-30		31-50		51+	
	Gender	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Bronglais General Hospital (BGH)		0	0	0	0	8	*	*	*	*	0
Glangwili General Hospital (GGH)		0	0	9	6	44	19	33	22	7	6
Prince Philip Hospital (PPH)		*	*	13	6	17	22	24	17	*	6
Withybush General Hospital (WGH)		*	0	15	10	54	25	31	31	14	17

2. The UHB provides, within the table overleaf, the total number of attendances at the UHB's A&E Departments, by acute hospital, gender and age range, as recorded on the WPAS, during the period 1 January to 31 December 2023.

Hospital	Age range	0-10		11-17		18-30		31-50		51+	
	Gender	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
BGH		1,582	1,310	1,091	881	2,675	3,247	2,580	2,611	6,881	6,712
GGH		3,978	3,180	2,099	2,020	3,333	4,382	4,708	4,947	10,991	11,242
PPH		1,678	1,512	1,941	1,422	2,979	2,578	3,930	3,752	5,273	6,532
WGH		1,916	1,481	1,833	1,356	3,119	3,400	4,163	4,388	9,644	10,639

In addition to the data provided in the table above, the WPAS identified A&E attendees with a gender recorded as indeterminate, in the 18-30 and 31-50 age ranges. However, due to the low numbers (5 or less) a Section 40 exemption has been applied. Please see full exemption explanation at the beginning of the response.