

Reference:	FOI.6983.21
Subject:	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Assessments
Date of Request:	23 September 2021

Requested:

For the last 10 years, or as many years as you have for that period, which you have data please provide a breakdown of:

1. The number of Adult ADHD Assessments undertaken per year for up to the last 10 years. Ideally per calendar year.
2. The number of Adult ADHD Assessments for women undertaken per year for up to the last 10 years. Ideally per calendar year.
3. The number of Adult ADHD Assessments for men undertaken per year for up to the last 10 years. Ideally per calendar year.
4. The number of Children ADHD Assessments undertaken per year for up to the last 10 years. Ideally per calendar year.
5. The number of Children (Under 18) ADHD Assessments for girls undertaken per year for up to the last 10 years. Ideally per calendar year.
6. The number of Children (Under 18) ADHD Assessments for boys undertaken per year for up to the last 10 years. Ideally per calendar year.

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 and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate limit” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2 ½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

The UHB does not centrally record the number of assessments undertaken for Children and Young People (CYP), therefore in order to provide you with the requested data, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all CYP patient records, to identify any information that fulfils your request.

Additionally, there was no specific adult ADHD service prior to 2017. Therefore, to provide you with the information requested for the calendar years 2011 to 2016 would also require a manual trawl of adult patient records, to identify if any ADHD assessments were undertaken, as they were not recorded on any databases for this time period.

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, we are required as a public authority, to provide advice and assistance so far as it is reasonable, to individuals who have made a request under FoIA. Therefore, the UHB provides the information it holds for questions 1, 2 and 3 below.

The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of adult ADHD assessments undertaken, by gender, for the calendar years 2017 to 2021.

Number of adult ADHD assessments			
Calendar year	Female	Male	Total
2017	*	*	6
2018	*	13	**
2019	13	32	45
2020	17	31	48
2021	27	38	65

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 (5 and under), as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. The UHB has also replaced totals which could be used to calculate the redacted figure with a double asterisk (**). The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the FoIA. This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018/General Data Protection Regulations 2016 (GDPR), as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles 6 and 9 of the GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore, there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the Data Protection Act 2018/General Data Protection Regulations 2016 defines personal data as data which 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.