

Reference:	FOI.10547.22
Subject:	Chaplains and comments made regarding mental health patients
Date of Request:	19 December 2022

Requested:

I would like to know whether NHS chaplains at the trust or other NHS chaplains have made comments after seeing patients who believe themselves to be possessed.

Please send me all case notes and/or email correspondence from 2022 which describes an NHS chaplain commenting on a patient and includes any of the following words:

"Possessed," "spirit," "jinn," "jin," "gin," "shayatin," "afarit," "exorcism," "devil," "satan," "satanic," "demon," "evil," "infestation," "subjection," "spectra," "occult," "witch," "Iblis," "nafs," "waswās," "dybbuk," "zebola," "awre," "sagwara," "shaitani," "gamba," "kitimiri," "inwatso," "loa," "iwa," "chwal," "māra," "kuei," "shaman," "Bhūtavidyā," "Bhaironji," "peye," "setan,"

Please also send case notes and/or email correspondence from 2022 which describes an NHS chaplain commenting on a patient and includes any of the same words in their plural forms.

NOTE: I of course would not expect to be sent full case notes or discussions of patients that would identify them — just the relevant sections of text with the names and any other identifiers redacted.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide the information requested as the information is not held as requested.

Consultation with the chaplaincy service has identified that notes and details of their consultations with patients and service users are not kept. A record of the visit is recorded within the chaplaincy service and by ward staff, but this is limited to the date, time and patient/chaplain name and ward name. All details of conversations are kept confidential, other than where a risk of harm to the patient or other individuals is identified. In such situations, this will be discussed with relevant clinical staff with the patient's knowledge, although it is limited to essential detail only.