

Reference:	FOI.12273.23
Subject:	Emergency dental patients
Date of Request:	25 July 2023

Requested:

1. In the period 1st December 2022 to 30th June 2023, how many times did patients present at your general emergency/urgent care services with dental problems?
Please can you state whether the response solely relates to major A&Es or whether any minor injury units have been included too? If you have any specialist facilities for dental treatment, please exclude these.

Provide a breakdown of this figure down by:

- Type of problem e.g. toothache, abscess/infection, loss of teeth, broken or loose teeth, gum disease/bleeding from the mouth, decay etc.
- The ages of the patients e.g. 0-9, 10-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80-89, 90+
- The gender of the patients.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides, within the table overleaf, the number of patients admitted to the UHB's Accident and Emergency (A&E) Department and Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) with a dental issue, by issue type, age and gender, as recorded on the UHB's Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS), during the period 1 December 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Age range	0-19		20-29		30-39		40-49		50-59		60-69		70+		Total	
Issue	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
Abscess/infection	22	18	30	38	36	47	36	31	32	36	27	18	10	16	193	204
Accidental poisoning	0	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**	0
Avulsed tooth	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**
Broken/loose teeth	*	0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	0	0	16	18
Dental pain	9	6	14	18	19	13	8	*	*	11	*	*	*	0	57	59
Gum disease/bleeding	*	*	*	0	0	*	0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	13	12
Swelling	*	*	9	*	*	9	9	*	8	6	*	*	*	*	42	34
Tooth decay	*	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	0	*	0	9	**
Toothache	*	*	*	8	7	*	*	*	6	*	*	*	*	*	27	22

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 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 (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.