

Reference:	FOI.7215.21
Subject:	Encephalitis and Guillain-Barré syndrome
Date of Request:	21 October 2021

Requested:

1. Can you please provide the figures for the number of patients in all hospitals in your trust for each year of the last 10 years, including 2021 YTD, that were diagnosed as suffering from:
 - a. Encephalitis or
 - b. Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS).
2. Can you please provide specific numbers for each age group please?
3. For the figures pertaining to the last 3 years can you please indicate how many had received a single injection of the experimental chemical concoction you call "Covid 19 vaccines"?
4. For the figures pertaining to the last 3 years can you please indicate how many had received two injections of the experimental chemical concoction you call "Covid 19 vaccines"?
5. For the figures pertaining to the last 3 years can you please indicate how many had received NO injections of the experimental chemical concoction you call "Covid 19 vaccines"?

Please provide the information separately for the two diseases noted above.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the information broken down by age group and calendar year, as requested for question 2. Also, where the figures in the tables below 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 these details were disclosed. The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (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.

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 the information in a disclosable format.

1. The UHB provides, within the table overleaf, the number of patients admitted with a diagnosis of Encephalitis and Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS), by calendar year from 2011 to 2020 and 1 January to 31 October 2021.

Calendar year	Encephalitis	GBS
2011	17	12
2012	21	25
2013	28	7
2014	33	23
2015	31	23
2016	35	19
2017	26	12
2018	32	34
2019	17	48
2020	22	68
2021 to 31/10/21	13	41

2. The UHB provides, within the table below, the total number of patients admitted with a diagnosis of Encephalitis and GBS, by age group, covering the period 1 January 2011 to 31 October 2021.

Age group	Encephalitis	GBS
Under 18	38	*
18 to 29	19	6
30 to 39	19	8
40 to 49	26	16
50 to 59	30	99
60 to 69	45	53
70+	99	171

3. – 5. The COVID-19 vaccination was not approved for use in the UK until December 2020. Therefore, the UHB does not hold data prior to this.

However, the UHB provides, within the table below, the number of patients with Encephalitis and GBS that are recorded as having none, one and two COVID-19 vaccinations, as recorded on the UHB's Welsh Immunisation System, for the period December 2020 to 31 October 2021.

COVID-19 vaccinations	Encephalitis	GBS
None	32	20
One	*	14
Two	8	21

Please note: Recent figures may be subject to change because of a standard clinical coding backlog of up to three (3) months.