

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.13963.24
<b>Subject:</b>	Test results during hospital admissions
<b>Date of Request:</b>	7 March 2024

**Requested:**

I'm writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request data for the last five years on the number of hospital admissions in your health board area for:

- Salmonella
- E coli
- Campylobacter

Please can I also have data on the number of cases where people were initially admitted to hospital as a result of salmonella, e coli or campylobacter, compared to the number of people who developed one of those conditions whilst in hospital?

**Clarification**

The UHB requested further clarification around the request for information on hospital acquired infections, to help process your request for information. The following clarification was received:

To clarify, please can I have data on the illnesses as found in both stool and blood tests?

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is withholding some of the information requested. 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 (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 Freedom of Information Act 2000 (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.

It should be noted that the data provided for the information requested has been extracted from two different systems. As a result, the information provided below for question 1 is provided by calendar year, whilst the information provided for question 2 is provided by financial year.

1. The UHB provides within the table below the number of patients admitted to hospital for Salmonella, E coli or Campylobacter between the time period of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, as recorded on the Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS).

<b>Hospital Admissions</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Salmonella</b>	<b>E. coli</b>	<b>Campylobacter</b>
2019	9	*	27
2020	*	*	31
2021	*	11	47
2022	6	*	52
2023	0	0	*
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>**</b>

2. The UHB provides within the tables overleaf the number of patients recorded as testing positive for hospital onset Salmonella, E. coli or Campylobacter, for the time period of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, as recorded on the ICNet system.

Hospital onset data describes specimens taken more than 2 days into a hospital admission and cannot identify the reason for admission. The data provided is for faeces samples and blood samples.

<b>Faeces Samples</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Salmonella</b>	<b>E. coli</b>	<b>Campylobacter</b>
2019/2020	*	*	*
2020/2021	*	0	*
2021/2022	0	0	*
2022/2023	*	0	*
2023/2024	*	0	*
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>**</b>	<b>12</b>

<b>Blood Samples</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Salmonella</b>	<b>E.coli</b>	<b>Campylobacter</b>
2019/2020	0	73	0
2020/2021	0	53	0
2021/2022	0	63	0
2022/2023	*	63	0
2023/2024	0	56	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>**</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>0</b>