

12 March 2019

Information Rights & Compliance Team
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Our Ref: FOI 3134

Thank you for your request concerning the number of injuries sustained by staff from patients.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

1. The number of injuries sustained by staff due to patients, in each of the last 5 years.

Financial Year	Number of Incidents Reported of Staff Injured by Patients
2013/14	921
2014/15	785
2015/16	959
2016/17	1043
2017/18	890
Total Incidents	4598

2. The number of facial injuries sustained by staff due to patients, in each of the last 5 years.

We are unable to provide this information within the time limit. To supply the number of facial injuries would involve reviewing each incident record and to carry out this task would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450.

Under section 12 of the FOIA a public authority does not have to comply with a request for information if the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit. For example based on the number of staff injuries quoted above, this would mean looking at each record to identify the injury. It is estimated that it would take approximately 3 minutes to manually review each individual record to extract the information, i.e. 230 hours @ £25ph = £5,747.50.

3. The number of eye injuries sustained by staff due to patients, in each of the last 5 years.

We are unable to provide the number of eye injuries sustained by staff. Please see the explanation provided under question 2.

4. The number of spitting incidents by patients towards staff, in each of the last 5 years.

We are unable to provide the number of spitting incidents. Please see the explanation provided under question 2.

5. The total number of days off work taken out by staff due to injuries from patients, in each of the last 5 years.

We do not hold this information¹. We record the reason an employee has been off sick for example Fracture/Injury but no additional details are recorded to establish if those sickness episodes were related to injuries by patients.

Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust's complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

Sue Smith

**Sue Smith
Information Rights Officer**

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click [here](#).



¹ Section 1(1) Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled (a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and (b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him.