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B McKenzie
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Dear B McKenzie

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Please find detailed below NHS Western Cheshire's response to your email received on 7th October 2011 requesting information about fractures in babies.

You asked:

Please could you provide all statistical data you hold broken down year by year, in relation to admissions due to fractures in babies, going back from 2011 to whatever date is reasonable.

I am particularly interested in

1. The age of the child at the time of injury.

Please see the table below. We have limited the data to children under 5. We are unable to break the data down to the age of each child as, because of the small numbers involved, there is a genuine risk that to do so may be sufficient to identify individuals. This information is therefore exempt under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

2. Name of the Hospital

83% of admissions of children under 5 with a fracture are to Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust: <http://www.coch.org/absolute/en/index.aspx> The remainder are admissions to Arrowe Park Hospital, Wirral: http://www.whnt.nhs.uk/practical_information/arrowe_park/

3. Whether the Fractures had an organic explanation. (If so what was the cause eg. Brittle bones, Vitamin D deficiency etc)

Please see the table below. Around 88% of the total number of fractures in children aged under 5 during this period are due to an external cause ie non-organic. We do not hold information as to the cause of the rest of the recorded fractures.

4. Whether the Fractures were recorded as non accidental.

Please see the table below.

Admissions to Hospital with a fracture. Children aged under 5, registered with an NHS Western Cheshire GP.

Cause	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Accidental Fall	27	36	41	28	25	22	29	21
Other causes *	14	8	13	12	11	9	13	12
Total	41	44	54	40	36	31	42	33

* includes accidental contact with objects or machinery, contact with animals, transport accidents and also fractures without an external cause recorded. 99% of all fractures recorded as having an external cause were classed as accidental.

5. Whether police were informed.

6. Whether the child was adopted (records show child's change of name and parent).

7. Whether the child died from the injuries.

8. Whether Social Services were informed.

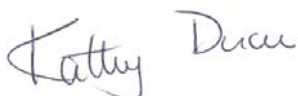
We do not hold information for questions 5-8 above. This information may be held by the hospitals mentioned in question 2 above.

I hope this sufficiently answers your enquiry but please do not hesitate to contact Terry Boardman, Information Governance Manager on 01244 650473 or e-mail foi@wcheshirepct.nhs.uk, should you require any further information.

As part of our commitment to improving our services, I would be grateful if you would take the time to tell us how we dealt with your request for information by completing a short customer satisfaction survey. The survey is completely anonymous and should take no more than a couple of minutes to complete.

The survey can be found on our public website via the following link [Freedom of Information customer satisfaction survey](#)

Yours sincerely



Kathy Doran

Chief Executive

NHS Cheshire, Warrington and Wirral

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