

Freedom of Information Response – FOI 22/21

Your Request:

Why are we being locked down for a disease that was declassified as a HCID in March 2020? Going by your own website covid19 has a low mortality rate and low infection rate

Do you have any information on the yearly flu deaths being recorded as covid19? Because the flu has disappeared and the flu is a coronavirus

Why has pneumonia deaths dropped by 90%? Could pneumonia deaths be called covid19?

Wheres the new evidence masks work? A Danish study and all studies ive found suggests masks don't work. Just like the government stated last year.

Wheres your evidence lockdowns work? All lockdowns so far have failed and the dips in case are seasonal that matches the flu season. Also countries that never lockdown trends are the same as countries that lockdown

Why is dying WITH COVID19 being treated as the same as dying FROM COVID19? There's a huge difference

Wheres your evidence that asymptomatic spread is real and is happening?

What information have you got about the pcr tests are being run at a higher cycle rate than 30cycles?
What cycle rate are we using?

PHA Response:

Your request for information has now been considered by the Public Health Agency (NI) and I can confirm we do not hold this information.

When considering FOI requests, the Act does not require Public Authorities to create information to respond to a request which includes answering questions asking for opinion/views etc, rather it requires Public Authorities to consider for release information which is readily available to the Authority and is in a recorded format.

Public Health Agency's ongoing monitoring of the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic is published through our weekly COVID-19 Bulletin and monthly Epidemiological Bulletins, which you can find on our website here - <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/coronavirus-weekly-and-monthly-bulletins>.

You may also wish to refer you to scientific information available on the Department of Health website:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/covid-19-scientific-evidence>

Please note that the General Register Office for Northern Ireland store records of deaths in Northern Ireland, and may be in a position to consider and respond to your request:

Telephone: 0300 200 7890 (from Northern Ireland)

Telephone: 0289 151 3101 (from elsewhere in the UK)

Telephone: +44 2891 513 101 (from outside the UK)

Email: gro_nisra@finance-ni.gov.uk

You may also wish to refer to the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) website for information in relation to Covid-19 deaths: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Statistics | Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency \(nisra.gov.uk\)](https://www.nisra.gov.uk/coronavirus)

In relation to PCR testing, please note that testing for COVID 19 is via Pillar 1 (HSC laboratories). HSC Trusts should be approached directly for this – please see contact details in attached Appendix 1 for your information.

Testing in the Community is via Pillar 2 which the Public Health Agency co-ordinates on behalf of the National Initiative. Please refer to the Department of Health and Social Care in London – contact details are available on the following link:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any queries about this communication or are unhappy with this response and wish to request an internal review, please do not hesitate to contact me.

It would be helpful if you could quote the reference number above in any future communications relating to this request for information.