



Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Care Trust

2 March 2018

Email: Malcolm Macgregor request-462995-6026ffb9@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Macgregor

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: AD-IG-01(2)-2018-15
Key Word: Vertigo/Dizziness
Subject: Vertigo/Dizziness
Request:
Date Received: 06/02/2018
Monitoring Date: 07/02/2018
Date of Response: 02/03/2018

Thank you for your request for information received 6 February 2018 and which was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. We would also inform you that Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) Health and Social Care Trust has now completed its search for the information you requested and which is detailed below and attached for your attention.

Question 1

Please could you provide me with the number of patients who presented to your ambulance service with a chief complaint of either "vertigo" or "dizziness" in the last year.

Answer 1

Please refer to attachment labelled FOI-15. The data provided is based on calls received and for the period of 2017. Please note that all calls may not result in a response to a patient. Please further be advised that the information has been extracted from the Command and Control system which captures 999 information along with the clinical presenting condition of the patient identified. Under the chief complaint of "sick person" there is a sub chief complaint of dizziness/vertigo. This has been highlighted in yellow in the attached sheet. However we further extracted free text from all chief complaints that stated the words dizziness (or any variation on this) and vertigo. This has also been provided in the attachment. For example this could be a chief complaint of Diabetes with a what's the problem stating "female diabetic, feeling weak and dizzy" "female dizzy and nauseated"

I hope the above and attached fully assists you.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. Please note that, under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, if you wish to publish or otherwise use this information besides for your own means, you will need to seek our permission to do so.



In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Finance and ICT Director, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) HSC Trust, Site 30, Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8SG.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request, you may make a complaint under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the Trust has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

Website: ni@ico.org.uk
Post: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF
Telephone: 028 9027 8757 or 0303 123 1114 (Belfast based Office)

In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out. However the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion. Please be advised that NIAS replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <http://www.niamb.co.uk>. Personal details in respect of your request will have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

Alison Vitty

Alison Vitty (Miss)
CORPORATE MANAGER