

Our Ref: lab/FOI 21-292 Direct Line: 01633 435956
FOI.ABB@wales.nhs.uk

26th July 2021

Myfanwy Williams
request-770537-f1a8d67d@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Ms Williams

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, received on 4th July 2021, reference number **FOI 21-297**. I can confirm that the Health Board has completed a search of its records and has established that it does hold information in relation to your request below:

How many patients in total received ECT in 2019?

33

How many of these were female?

19

How many of these were over 60?

13

How many of these were under 18?

None.

How many patients received ECT without receiving a NICE recommended psychological therapy?

This information is not held by the ECT Service, this is held within the individual patients mental health notes following discussion with their Responsible Medical Officer in their appropriate community or inpatient setting prior to initiation of ECT treatment. In order to determine this it would have to review every patient record. Therefore in order to comply with your request the Health Board has established that this would exceed the appropriate costs limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which is currently £450. As you will be aware this is not an exemption which requires us to consider the application of the public interest test. We have calculated that it would take in excess of 18 hours to review the record of each patient.

What measures of clinical outcome were used for patients who received ECT were used, and what were the results?

All completed following each ECT session:

- Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale
- Montreal Cognitive Assessment
- Clinical Global Impression
- ECT outcome form post every treatment

Daily monitoring of mental health, ward rounds (inpatient) community team monitoring (outpatient)

Results would be very difficult to collate from individual patient notes following each ECT session as these would be on a case by case basis. There would be many variables of measures that would make this difficult to report.

What measures of adverse effects for patients who received ECT were used, and what were the results?

- All completed prior to and following each ECT session:
- Pre Treatment checklist
- Observations during ECT treatment
- World Health Organisation checklist
- Post ECT treatment observations
- Medical Notes (Consultant Anaesthetist & Consultant Psychiatrist)
- Nursing Notes
- ECT Discharge Form from ECT Clinic
- Daily monitoring of physical and mental health, ward round (inpatient)
- Responsible adult for 24 hours post ECT for outpatients. Community mental health team and GP monitoring for outpatients.

The Health Board does not have any data analysis of the above checklists, observations and clinical notes. In order to determine this it would have to review every patient record. Therefore in order to comply with your request the Health Board has established that this would exceed the appropriate costs limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which is currently £450. As you will be aware this is not an exemption which requires us to consider the application of the public interest test. We have calculated that it would take in excess of 18 hours to review the record of each patient.

A review of the Health Boards Clinical incident system (DATIX) has been undertaken and no incidents reporting any adverse effects for individuals who have received ECT in 2019 have been reported.

How many patients were given ECT without consent?

22

Which professions did the SOAD consult for patients who did not consent?

Approved Clinician (known to the patient)

Named Nurse (known to the patient)

Other Health Professional (known to the patient)

If you are not satisfied that the information you have requested has not been provided, or because of the way your request has been handled, you have the right to request a review. This would be looked into in accordance with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) guidelines, which state that a request for review should be received within two months of you receiving the Health Board's response to your request for information.

Please contact Richard Howells, Board Secretary, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Headquarters, St Cadoc's Hospital, Lodge Road, Caerleon, Newport, NP18 3XQ, email: ABB.BoardSecretary@wales.nhs.uk in the first instance if you wish to request a review.

If you are still dissatisfied at the end of the review, you have the right to take your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office - Wales
2nd Floor
Churchill House
Churchill Way
Cardiff
CF10 2HH

Telephone: 0330 414 6421
Email: wales@ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely



Judith Paget
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive