

Dear Ms Jeffrey

Your Request for Information: FOI-0264-19

Thank you for your request for information.

Your request and the response are below:

On how many occasions has thrombolysis administered to stroke patients resulted in a bleed in the brain at the Royal London Hospital?

Please give data per year 2013 - 2018; please provide actual number and as a percentage of patients thrombolysed for stroke.

Please also break down the data by HASU and ASU.

Thrombolysis is a treatment for blood clotting and is identified by one of two methods on the data system, either as "Thrombolytic drugs", or "Fibrinolytic drugs Band 1". We have extracted the number of patients receiving this treatment by looking at patient spells which included such treatment. In the time period you have requested, 1,581 patients were treated with thrombolysis.

The Trust cannot confirm the number of patients for whom the treatment has 'resulted' in a bleed in the brain, because this information is not easily searchable. The information we hold which is centrally recorded is not this specific so we have looked at whether it is possible to ascertain the information based on a change in diagnosis. However, this would require a number of assumptions and therefore would not result in sufficiently accurate information.

Therefore, to ascertain whether the thrombolysis had resulted in a bleed in the brain, we would have to review each of the patients' medical records. If we estimate that locating and extracting the relevant information for each patient would take approximately 15 minutes, to review the total number of patient records listed above would take over 395 hours (1,581 patients x 15 minutes per patient file / 60 minutes per hour = 395.25 hours).

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, the Trust is exempt from providing information where the cost of compliance exceeds £450 or 18 hours. The Trust therefore considers the information exempt. Unfortunately, in this case we are unable to advise you on how to reduce the scope of your request enough to fall within the compliance limit.

The Royal London Hospital has a Hyper-Acute Stroke Unit (HASU) and there are Acute Stroke Units (ASU) at Newham University Hospital and Whipps Cross University Hospital. More information about the Trust's stroke units are available on our website via the following link:

<https://bartshealth.nhs.uk/stroke>

If you are dissatisfied on how your request has been handled, you can complain in writing to:

The Information Governance Manager, Barts Health NHS Trust,

Email: foi@bartshealth.nhs.uk

Postal address:

The Information Governance Manager,

c/o Archives & Records Centre,

Barts Health NHS Trust,
Lower Ground Floor,
9 Prescott St,
Aldgate,
E1 8PR

If, after we have addressed your complaint, you remain dissatisfied with how we have responded, you are entitled to appeal to the Information Commissioner (Tel: 01625 545 745). Details are shown at www.ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Maria Björklund
Freedom of Information Co-ordinator
Barts Health NHS Trust
9 Prescott Street
London, E1 8PR

T: 020 7480 4866

Website: www.bartshealth.nhs.uk
foi@bartshealth.nhs.uk

Please note our new Records Management email address –
RecordsManagement@bartshealth.nhs.uk

See our Records Management pages on the intranet [here](#).