

April 2012

- 1) *Please tell me how many children (under-18) were admitted to hospitals / specialist units run by your trust for treatment for anorexia nervosa in the five-year period 2007-2011 (calendar years).*
- 2) *Please provide me with a breakdown of patients, detailing a) their sex, b) their age and c) whether they died*

*Please provide your response in the following format: In the five-year period 2007-11 three children were admitted to hospital. The breakdown is as follows:*

	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Did they die?</b>
<i>Patient 1</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>10</i>	
<i>Patient 2</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>14</i>	
<i>Patient 3</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>15</i>	

- 3) *If your records go back that far, please also tell me how many children (under-18) were admitted to hospitals / specialist units run by your trust for treatment for anorexia nervosa in the five-year period 2002-2006 (calendar years).*
- 4) *Please provide me with a breakdown of patients, detailing a) their sex, b) their age and c) whether they died*

We have been unable to retrieve records related to 2002. During the period 2003 to 2011 there were a total of 10 children (under 18) that were admitted to hospital for treatment of anorexia nervosa.

	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Did they die?</b>
5 patients	Female & Male	12 to 15	No
5 patients	Female	16 to 18	No

*\*\*Please note we hold data for 2003 – 2006 only\*\**

I would, of course, like to reassure you that it is the Trust's aim to provide information which is requested by the public under the Act promptly, provided the information exists, no exemptions apply and the fee limit is not exceeded having regard to the Freedom of Information 2000 and Data Protection 1998.

However, the Trust is also obliged to adhere to the requirements of the Data Protection Act and avoid disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act which may identify individual patients. Having regard to the Information Commissioner's Decision (Reference: FS50349593) concerning this sort of dilemma we consider ourselves unable to provide you with a patient by patient itemised breakdown as this would disclose the exact numbers or genders of patients which, taken together with the year of treatment, would potentially enable identification of the individual. We have therefore (as in the Calderdale Primary Care Trust subject of the ICO decision noticed referred to) applied section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the 'Act') to the detailed information. Section 40 (2) specifies that:

*“the personal information of a third party must not be disclosed if to do so would contravene any of the data protection principles. The first principle of the Data Protection Act 1998 (the ‘DPA’) states that personal data must be processed fairly and lawfully.”*

We apologise if this seems unhelpful but hope the information above will be sufficient.