

How many patients were registered as having died in association with 'covid19' between 1/2/20 and 31/8/20 when under the care of the Trust?

How many of the above patients having indicated 'covid19' as the principal cause of death?

How many of 'covid19' associated deaths above had significant co-morbidity mentioned in their death certificates?

The Health Board can confirm that in order to gather this information we would have to carry out a specific exercise of reviewing the Medical Certificate Cause of Death (MCCD) books in each of our sites to determine if COVID-19 is the cause of death with no contributing factors. We have calculated that in order to comply with your request it would exceed the appropriate costs limit under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is currently £450. In reaching this decision we estimate that it would take staff approximately 23 hours to review death information. This figure is based on a timescale of 10 minutes per patient death, there being 275 deaths that have occurred between 1st February and 31st August 2020 in our hospitals. Therefore, to obtain the data would work out at approximately 46 hours @ £25.00 per hour (cost permitted under the Act) = £1,150.00. As you will be aware this is not an exemption which requires us to consider the application of the public interest test.

Under our obligation to advise and assist, we have also provided website links to the Office of National Statistics (ONS) and Public Health Wales (PHW) where you will be able to access further information on the cause of death by location.

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/public.health.wales.health.protection#!/vizhome/RapidCOVID-19virology-Public/Headlinesummary>

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/bulletins/deathsinvolvingcovid19bylocalareasanddeprivation/deathsoccurringbetween1marchand31july2020#local-authorities>