

Freedom of Information Act Disclosure log - Reply Extract

File reference	W21FOI233
Key words	Reported Hospital Deaths and Relation to COVID-19
Date of release	12/08/2021
Attachments	No

You asked

I read in today's newspaper The Herald, that there were 4 deaths within a week in your hospital. It is very brief with the details, so I am asking you under the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Did these people die 'OF' Covid, or did they die 'WITH' Covid?

We do not hold the information requested. The Medical Certificate Cause of Death (MCCD) is a document which is issued by a doctor to the registrar.

The Registry Office has suggested that we signpost you to the Office for National Statistics as they may be able to assist you. Please find the attached link for your ease. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/aboutus/contactus>

2. Did they have Covid when they entered the hospital, or did they contract it whilst in hospital?

All patient admitted to hospital are tested and at periods during their stay and this allows us to identify any hospital acquired infections

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust takes the view that this information is exempt from disclosure in accordance with section 41(1)(a) and (b) of the 2000 Act - (Information provided in confidence).

The information it obtains about patients carries a duty of inferred confidence and that the release of such information would breach that trust. This duty continues regardless of whether they are alive or deceased and extends in the protection of their families from inappropriate intrusion.

3. Were these people vaccinated, or were they unvaccinated?

The Trust does not hold the information requested.

Legal notes

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust is confirming in accordance with section 1 (a) of the Act that it does not hold the information requested in question 1 and 3.



**University Hospitals
Plymouth**
NHS Trust

Q2 is refused in compliance with section 41(1)(a) and (b). Information provided in confidence.

Attachments included: No