

Our Ref: ID 1661

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
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Re: Freedom of Information Request – Accidental Falls

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received into this office on 10th March 2020.

You Asked for:

The information is requested as numbers per year (from 2010 onwards) on an individual year by year basis under the following headings:

1. Number of A & E attendances per year associated with an accidental fall in your Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area.
2. Hospital outpatient appointments per year associated with an accidental fall in your CCG area.
3. GP appointments per year associated with an accidental fall in your CCG area.
4. Number of deaths per year associated with an accidental fall in your CCG area.

I would request for the data to be presented by year and age group if possible.

Our Response:

1. Please see the table below:

Year	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Accidental fall	50	109	204	166	134	61

Please note: Within the A & E dataset, there is a code called 'A & E diagnosis' which identifies injuries, but not the cause of the injury. Using data on A & E Attendances at Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (WUTH), there is a separate field called 'ED Diagnosis Description' which does return some descriptions for diagnosis. The field does include returns of "accidental fall". The table above lists the figures reported by year. However, it is possible that this is incomplete information as there were no returns in 2019/2020, which is unlikely. There were also many other categories of diagnosis like "elderly fall" and there was no way to identify how much of the elderly falls data is also under the category of 'accidental'. Unfortunately, NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) are not in control of how this information is recorded.

2. Outpatient data can include codes for falls but it is not mandatory to record, so very little outpatient data includes it. Based on the information available, there were no outpatient

attendances with a relevant fall code. This does not mean there was no activity, just that it cannot be identified or the information was not recorded.

3. Unfortunately, NHS Wirral CCG does not hold this information as GP referrals do not hold this level of information.
4. Unfortunately, NHS Wirral CCG does not hold this information.

We hope this information is useful, however if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Corporate Affairs Team (contact details at the top of this letter)

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