

Our Reference     North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 24-091

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By Email

30 May 2024

Dear Applicant

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information – NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB)**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request received by the North East and the North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) on 24 May 2024.

NENC ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley (which covers the 5 councils that make it up – Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland, and Stockton-on-Tees).

We have dealt with your request in accordance with your “right to know” under section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (subsequently referred to as FOIA2000) which entitles you to be provided with information “held” by a public authority unless an appropriate exemption applies.

**Your Request**

For your ICB, please can you provide details of the following:

1. The number of people living with a recorded diagnosis of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) on the 01/01/2022, the number of living with a diagnosis of COPD on the 01/01/2023. Please confirm how a COPD diagnosis has been defined.
2. For the population living with a recorded diagnosis of COPD on the 01/01/2022 please can you provide the following metrics for the calendar year 2022. These metrics are:
  - a. The number of respiratory related hospital admissions in that calendar year, along with details of how a respiratory related admission has been defined.
  - b. The number of COPD related hospital admissions in that calendar year, along with details of how a COPD related admission has been defined.
  - c. The number of all cause hospital admissions in that calendar year
  - d. The number of individuals in the population with at least 1, at least 3, and at least 5 respiratory related hospital admissions in that calendar year

- e. The number of individuals in the population with at least 1, at least 3, and at least 5 COPD related hospital admissions in that calendar year
  - f. The number of individuals in the population with at least 1, at least 3, and at least 5 all cause hospital admissions in that calendar year
  - g. The average number of respiratory related admissions and occupied bed days for each individual in the diagnosed COPD population in that calendar year
  - h. The average number of all cause admissions and occupied bed days for each individual in the diagnosed COPD population in that calendar year
  - i. How many deaths occurred in that calendar year within the diagnosed COPD population.
  - j. Total number of GP appointments in that calendar year for patients with a COPD diagnosis.
  - k. The number of individuals in the population that received a COPD review in primary care in that calendar year
  - l. The number of all cause and respiratory related admissions had by individuals who did not have a primary care review in that calendar year
  - m. The number of people in the COPD population who had a heart failure diagnosis at the beginning of the calendar year.
3. For the population living with a recorded diagnosis of COPD on the 01/01/2023 please can you provide the following metrics for the calendar year 2023. These metrics are:
- a. The number of respiratory related hospital admissions in that calendar year, along with details of how a respiratory related admission has been defined
  - b. The number of COPD related hospital admissions in that calendar year, along with details of how a COPD related admission has been defined
  - c. The number of all cause hospital admissions in that calendar year
  - d. The number of individuals in the population with at least 1, at least 3, and at least 5 respiratory related hospital admissions in that calendar year
  - e. The number of individuals in the population with at least 1, at least 3, and at least 5 COPD related hospital admissions in that calendar year
  - f. The number of individuals in the population with at least 1, at least 3, and at least 5 all cause hospital admissions in that calendar year
  - g. The average number of respiratory related admissions and occupied bed days for each individual in the diagnosed COPD population in that calendar year
  - h. The average number of all cause admissions and occupied bed days for each individual in the diagnosed COPD population in that calendar year
  - i. How many deaths occurred in that calendar year within the diagnosed COPD population
  - j. Total number of GP appointments in that calendar year for patients with a COPD diagnosis.
  - k. The number of individuals in the population that received a COPD review in primary care in that calendar year
  - l. The number of all cause and respiratory related admissions had by individuals who did not have a primary care review in that calendar year
  - m. The number of people in the COPD population who had a heart failure diagnosis at the beginning of the calendar year.
4. As well presenting totals could the numbers for metrics 1, 2, and 3 be stratified by:
- a. SIMD for the individuals having the admissions
  - b. Calendar month of admission date
  - c. Whether or not the admission was a 90-day readmission (whether the admission date occurred within 90 days of the discharge date of a preceding admission of the same type\* for that
  - d. individual) + calendar month of admission date

- e. Whether or not the admission was a 30-day readmission (whether the admission date occurred within 30 days of the discharge date of a preceding admission of the same type\* for that individual) + calendar month of admission date

\*same type= respiratory related (1), COPD-related (2), or all-cause (3)

## Our Response

On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm that NENC ICB does not hold any of the information requested. However, we have determined that the information is held by acute hospital NHS foundation trusts (FTs) within the North East and North Cumbria region.

In accordance with our duty under s16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, we have provided the FOI email addresses for those acute hospitals to help you make your request.

| NENC Acute Hospital FTs                  | Email                              |
|--|------------------------------------|
| County Durham and Darlington NHS FT      | cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net           |
| Gateshead Health NHS FT                  | ghnt.foi.enquiries@nhs.net         |
| North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT     | foirequest@cumbria.nhs.uk          |
| North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT         | foi@nth.nhs.uk                     |
| Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT            | foi@northumbria.nhs.uk             |
| South Tees Hospitals NHS FT              | foi@stees.nhs.uk                   |
| South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT     | stsft.freedomofinformation@nhs.net |
| The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT | nuth.freedom.information@nhs.net   |

For reference, the link below, to NHS England Digital's website shows COPD prevalence by ICB:

[Quality and Outcomes Framework, 2022-23 – NHS England Digital](#)

COPD information is available from Fingertips which answers some of the questions regarding hospitalisation and deaths; the link is below:

[Public health profiles – OHID \(phe.org.uk\)](#)

In accordance with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the NHS ICB website <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/>.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Senior Information Governance Officer using the contact details at the top of this letter quoting the appropriate reference number.

If you are not content with the outcome your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the North of England Commissioning Support Unit.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

[www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

*S Davies*

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**Information Governance Officer**