

Trust Headquarters  
Russells Hall Hospital  
Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY1 2HQ

**Ref:** FOI-082025-0001846

**Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025

**Address / Email:**

Dear

**Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please see response below.

Please provide the following information, broken down by month, between January 2020 and July 2025 inclusive. If this is not possible, please instead provide it broken down by calendar year, 2020 to 2025 inclusive.

**1. The number of times a patient was admitted where exposure to air pollution (International Classification of Diseases, tenth revision (ICD-10) code Z581) \* was recorded as a contributing factor to the admission.**

*(\* I understand this is the code used by NHS trusts to log exposure to air pollution, but if your trust uses a different code or some other system, please still provide the relevant data)*

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 (to 31.07.25)
Amount of patients	17	26	47	82	60	21

**1a. If possible, please tell me what the primary diagnosis was for each of these admissions.**

*(For clarity, I want to know total numbers admitted with each primary diagnosis — for example, if 45 people were admitted with a primary diagnosis of asthma where exposure to air pollution was identified as a contributing factor.)*

Due to the small number of results for some specific ICD-10 primary diagnosis codes which could potentially make data patient identifiable, we have aggregated the data into the ICD-10 three-character category group, but this still produced relatively low numbers for most categories

ICD-10 three character category grouping	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Abnormal findings on diagnostic imaging and in function studies, without diagnosis (R90-R94)				<5		
Arthropathies (M00-M25)		<5	<5	<5	<5	
Cerebrovascular diseases (I60-I69)		<5	<5			
Chronic lower respiratory diseases (J40-J47)		<5	6	8	6	<5
Complications of surgical and medical care, not elsewhere classified (T80-T88)				<5	<5	
Diabetes mellitus (E10-E14)		<5				
Diseases of oesophagus, stomach and duodenum (K20-K31)		<5		<5		
Diseases of veins, lymphatic vessels and lymph nodes, not elsewhere classified (I80-I89)	<5					
Disorders of gallbladder, biliary tract and pancreas (K80-K87)	<5			<5	<5	
Disorders of lens (H25-H28)					<5	
Episodic and paroxysmal disorders (G40-G47)						<5
General symptoms and signs (R50-R69)			<5		<5	<5
Hypertensive diseases (I10-I15)				<5		
Infections of the skin and subcutaneous tissue (L00-L08)			<5			
Influenza and pneumonia (J09-J18)	<5	5	<5	<5	<5	<5
Injuries to the head (S00-S09)	<5					
Injuries to the hip and thigh (S70-S79)		<5				
Injuries to the shoulder and upper arm (S40-S49)			<5			
Intestinal infectious diseases (A00-A09)			<5		<5	
Ischaemic heart diseases (I20-I25)	<5	<5		<5		
Lung diseases due to external agents (J60-J70)	<5		<5	<5		<5
Malignant neoplasms (C00-C97)	<5	<5	18	29	25	11
Metabolic disorders (E70-E90)			<5			
Neoplasms of uncertain or unknown behaviour (D37-D48)		<5	<5			
Osteopathies and chondropathies (M80-M94)				<5		
Other acute lower respiratory infections (J20-J22)	<5		<5	5		<5
Other bacterial diseases (A30-A49)				<5		
Other diseases of intestines (K55-K64)	<5		<5		<5	
Other diseases of pleura (J90-J94)	<5		<5	7	6	
Other diseases of the respiratory system (J95-J99)		<5		<5		
Other diseases of urinary system (N30-N39)			<5			
Other disorders of the skin and subcutaneous tissue (L80-L99)		<5			<5	
Other forms of heart disease (I30-I52)	<5	<5		<5	<5	
Other respiratory diseases principally affecting the interstitium (J80-J84)		<5		<5	<5	
Provisional assignment of new diseases of uncertain etiology or emergency use (U00-U49)		<5				
Soft tissue disorders (M60-M79)				<5		
Symptoms and signs involving the circulatory and respiratory systems (R00-R09)	<5	<5	<5	7	5	<5
Symptoms and signs involving the digestive system and abdomen (R10-R19)					<5	<5
Symptoms and signs involving the nervous and musculoskeletal systems (R25-R29)	<5					

Trust does not publish numbers lower than 5 as this could lead to the identification of the persons involved and cause distress to families or friends, so Exemption Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act is applied.

## 2. Please tell me how many of the patients in question 1 subsequently died in hospital.

Due to the low numbers, we are unable to provide a breakdown of deaths between 01/01/2020 and 31/07/2025 but 12 patients died within the time period, at the end of the ICD-10 coded admission counted in Q1.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager  
Trust Headquarters  
Russell's Hall Hospital  
Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY1 2HQ  
Email: [dgft.dpo@nhs.net](mailto:dgft.dpo@nhs.net)

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Tel: 0303 123 1113  
[www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)  
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If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team**  
**The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust**