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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd Dros Dro/ Interim Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Tracy Myhill**

gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser
caring for each other, working together, always improving

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 3rd October 2019
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 19-H-008

01639 648363

FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[REDACTED]

Corporate Services
Headquarters
1 Talbot Gateway
Baglan
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

[REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 7th August 2019. I am sorry for the delay in responding. Your request sought information relating to patients in a minimally conscious state.

1. Please state the name of your CCG or Health Board?

Swansea Bay University Health Board

2. How many patients currently under the care of your CCG/ Health Board are being kept alive with clinically assisted nutrition and hydration (CANH) who are in a persistent vegetative state or minimally conscious state?

6 patients

3a. How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 1 year or more?

0

b. How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 3 years or more?

<5

c. How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 5 years or more?

<5

Where fewer than 5 has been indicated we are unable to provide you with the exact number of patients as due to the low numbers, there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This information is protected by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

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Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

constitute as unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

4a. How much money did your CCG/Health Board spend on the patients from Q2 in the years;

2015 – 2016 - £216,591.70

2016 – 2017 - £292,881.08

2017 – 2018 - £401,519.29

b. How much money does your CCG/Health Board spend per patient (from Q2) on average?

The current continuing healthcare (CHC) rate for care homes for 2019 is £1660, however, all residents may not be funded at this rate. There are also patients within the community, where care is provided by the core services of the Health Board (CHC team), therefore we cannot identify the cost per patient.

5. How many next of kin of patients from Q2 have asked for the CANH to be stopped and their loved ones be moved into palliative care?

Nil

6a. In how many patients cases, have you been in a legal battle, whether mediation or court, because next of kin wanted to stop CANH in the last 5 years?

Nil

b. What has been the financial cost of these legal battles/mediations?

Nil

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

