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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/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: 8th July 2020
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 20-E-019

☎ 01639 648363
✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

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

Dear

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 20th May 2020. Your request sought information relating to discharges to care homes.

The data we have provided covers the period 1st March 2020 to 31st May 2020.

We have followed Welsh Government guidance throughout the course of the pandemic. Guidance issued by Welsh Government on 8th April 2020 required us to notify care homes of the results of any patients who had previously had a test for COVID-19 either at the time of transfer from hospital to a care home, or in a 'timely manner' thereafter. This guidance did not set out that negative tests were required prior to transfer or admission into a residential care bed.

During the pandemic, we have adjusted our discharge processes to ensure that we were able to support the discharge of patients out of hospital beds to free up acute care capacity to support the pandemic and to also safeguard vulnerable patients from contracting COVID-19 whilst in hospital.

On 22nd April, a letter was received from Welsh Government requesting that all patients being discharged from hospital to a step down or care home setting be tested regardless of whether or not they were admitted to hospital with COVID-19.

The Health Board has complied with these requirements.

1. How many patients have been transferred from your hospitals into care homes to free up capacity and for other reasons since 1 March 2020?



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

319 discharges to care homes.

Please note that if a patient has been admitted and discharged more than once, they will have been counted more than once in this figure.

2. Of these how many were new admissions to that care home and how many were being moved back into an existing placement?

199 were moved back into an existing placement

120 were new admissions to a care home

3. How many of these patients were tested for the Covid-19 virus prior to transferring / post transfer?

139 patients were tested prior to discharge.

Swansea Bay Health Board does not hold data on COVID 19 testing in the community, i.e. post transfer.

4. How many of these patients have since been identified as having contracted the Covid-19 virus?

This information is not held by Swansea Bay Health Board. We do not have a linked dataset that tracks positive tests in care homes to a previous discharge from hospital, therefore this information is not held by the Health Board.

5. How many of these patients are known to have died from or with Covid-19 subsequently?

This information is not held by Swansea Bay Health Board.

There is no centralised system of data reporting across health and social care to support such an analysis.

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

