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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Mark Hackett**

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: 14th July 2021
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-F-032

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 17th June 2021. Your request sought information relating to treatment for COVID-19.

During the COVID-19 pandemic the Health Board worked to implement pathways for treatment in accordance with national guidance. This included Welsh Government and NICE (National Institute for Health and Care excellence) guidelines.

Decisions regarding Do Not Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (DNACPR) notices are based upon individual circumstances. The decision making process and DNACPR will be documented on the relevant forms after discussion with the patient/carers/relatives as detailed in the NHS Wales policy attached. There is not and has not been any blanket policies or orders in place for DNACPR.

Please also find attached the Swansea Bay Health Board Coronavirus Operational Policy. This was put in place for patients requiring ITU during the pandemic, due to ITU facilities not being available in all SBU hospitals.

As NHS resources were so limited during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is known that certain people were prioritised over others for in-patient treatment. It is also known that certain people and groups were subject to blanket and/or non-consensual 'Do Not Resuscitate' orders. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting the following information;

1. What were the criteria for the prioritisation of treatment? (e.g. age, chronic health conditions, neurodevelopmental disorders, etc.)



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

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

Not applicable

2. What hospitals made the choice to prioritise certain groups over others?

Not applicable

3. Were patients informed that there was prioritisation for certain groups?

Not applicable

a. If so, were those who were to be NOT a priority informed that they were as such?

Not applicable

b. How many people, irrespective of whether they went on to receive treatment and/or recover, were to be of lesser priority than others?

Not applicable

c. How many people, who were seen as a lesser priority for treatment, died?

Not applicable

4. Were there blanket DNR orders for patients in certain groups? (e.g. those with chronic health conditions, those with neurodevelopmental disorders, the elderly etc.)

No

a. What groups were subject to these blanket DNR orders?

Not applicable

b. If so, were these groups informed of the hospitals choice to place them under DNR orders?

Not applicable

c. Did any of these patients consent to the use of DNR orders on them?

Not applicable

d. How many people subject to these DNR orders went on to die?

Not applicable

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

