



**The Clatterbridge
Cancer Centre**
NHS Foundation Trust

Clatterbridge Road
Bebington
Wirral
CH63 4JY

Tel: 0151 556 5000
Web: www.clatterbridgecc.nhs.uk

Date: 13th December 2021

Re: Freedom of Information Request 341-2021

Thank you for your email dated the 19th November 2021, requesting information in relation to Long Covid statistics

The information that you require is as follows:

How many staff members were recorded to have had long Covid while working for your trust at any time in the period between March 2020 - September 2021?

Information not held - The absence system used within the Trust, Electronic Staff Records (ESR), does not currently have an option for recording long COVID and so we are unable to report on this specifically.

The Trust records any absence over 28 days as a long term absence, the number of staff who were absent due to sickness relating to COVID for over 28 days during the time period requested is 27.

What were the five longest periods in days that a member of staff took a leave of absence due to long Covid in the time period between March 2020 - September 2021?

The five longest periods of absence due to Covid were:

256 days

179 days

143 days

99 days

98 days

Could you state all leave of absences taken where long Covid was cited as the cause between March 2020 and September 2021.

Information not held - The absence system used within the Trust, Electronic Staff Records (ESR), does not currently have an option for recording long COVID and so we are unable to report on this specifically.

Does your trust offer any specialised support for staff members living with long Covid? If so could you please provide details of these services.

The Trusts Occupational Health (OH) provider offer a long COVID group which we will refer staff into if required – the group covers sessions on different topics such as management of symptoms, breathless and fatigue, mental health and wellbeing and acceptance. This group is ran by a specialist Occupational Therapist and they will also specifically review OH management referrals for employees and provide tailored advice. In addition to this we also signpost staff to local support groups available and external resources such as the British Lung Foundation which has tools for people dealing with breathlessness. We also utilise NHS Employers guidance and support for staff with long COVID.

What plans, if any, are in place to improve the support available to staff members who are living with long Covid while working for your trust?

No specific plans are in place, however we are in constant dialogue with OH to discuss any new/ further support which we can provide to staff living with long COVID and also constantly reviewing any new advice that it published in terms of more ways to support staff.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address provided below.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for this to be investigated internally.

If you are dissatisfied with the information you have received, you have the right to ask for an internal review.

Both processes will be handled in accordance with our Trust's Freedom of Information Policy and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Internal investigation and internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Freedom of Information Review, The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust, Clatterbridge Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 4JY.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal investigation/review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

In order for us to ensure customer satisfaction and to monitor compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would be grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete a short feedback form via the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H39RFMM>

Kind regards

Margaret Moore
Information Governance Administrator
Contact Email: ccf-tr.foi@nhs.net