

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

ATISN 15620

10 November 2021

Dear

ATISN 15620 – Do Not Resuscitate (DNR)

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 22 October, regarding 'Do Not Resuscitate' and 'Do Not Treat' (DNR/DNT) data. You requested the following information:

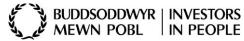
- Please provide information for each year since 2015 to present, on the number of 'Do Not Resuscitate' and/or 'Do Not Treat' orders according to age and ability/disability, that were issued in Wales
- Please provide information for the guidance since 2015 to present (referencing any changes in said guidance)

Our response

- Welsh Government does not hold the data relating to the number of 'Do Not Resuscitate' and 'Do Not Treat' orders which you are seeking and we advise that you contact the health boards directly. For your convenience, I have provided contact details for each health board at annex 1 attached.
- Wales has its own clinical policy for DNACPR (Do Not Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) for adults, which was launched in February 2015. It has been revised and updated in 2017 and most recently in November 2020 and will continued to be reviewed every two years. The policy can be accessed at: <u>http://www.wales.nhs.uk/researchandresources/publications/sharingandinvolvingaclini</u> calpolicyfordonotattemptcardiopulmonaryresuscitationdnacprforadultsinwales

When the policy was reviewed and amended in November, the key changes and clarifications were set out and can be accessed here: <u>Key changes and clarifications</u> for version 4 (2020) - NHS Wales Health Collaborative

Last year, at the start of the pandemic, the Chief Medical Officer and Chief Nursing Officer for Wales issued a joint letter to all health boards, to ensure there is clarity around ethical decision making for people with any protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010, including age, vulnerability, physical or learning disability, autism,



other life-long illnesses or conditions such as cerebral palsy, enduring mental health conditions or substance misuse problems.

The letter made it clear that age, disability or long term condition alone should never be a sole reason for issuing a DNACPR (Do Not Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) order against an individual's wishes. It emphasised that decisions should be made on an individual and consultative basis with people. It is unacceptable for advance care plans, with or without DNACPR form completion to be applied to groups of people of any description.

The letter was also issued widely to third sector partners and in an easy read format.

Attached is the web link to the letter which also contains links to other relevant information: <u>https://gov.wales/decisions-do-not-attempt-cardiopulmonary-resuscitation-dnacpr-age-disability-and-long-term</u>

Care Inspectorate Wales and Healthcare Inspectorate Wales also issued a joint statement on advance care planning, endorsing the approach to ethical decision making for those with any protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010, set out in the letter, issued by the Chief Medical Officer and Chief Nursing Officer for Wales. The letter can be accessed here: <u>https://hiw.org.uk/joint-statement-advance-care-planning-wales</u>

Information relating to advance care planning has also been published on the NHS Wales Collaborative website at: www.wales.nhs.uk/afcp

Next Steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,

Attachment: Annex 1- NHS Health Boards - Freedom of Information Contacts

NHS Health Boards – Freedom of Information Contacts

Aneurin Bevan

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board Headquarters, St Cadoc's Hospital Lodge Road Caerleon Newport, NP18 3XQ Email: <u>FOI.ABB@wales.nhs.uk</u>

Betsi Cadwaladr

Information Governance Department Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board Ysbyty Glan Clwyd Sarn Lane Bodelwyddan Rhyl, LL18 5UJ Email: <u>bcu.foi@wales.nhs.uk</u>

Cardiff and Vale

Cardiff and Vale UHB Headquarters University Hospital of Wales (UHW) Heath Park Cardiff, CF14 4XW Email: <u>CAV_FOI.Requests@wales.nhs.uk</u>

Cwm Taf Morgannwg

Freedom of Information Officer Cwm Taf Health Board Ynysmeurig House Navigation Park Abercynon, CF45 4SN E-mail: <u>freedomofinformation@wales.nhs.uk</u>

Hywel Dda

The Freedom of Information Officer Hywel Dda University Health Board Corporate Offices Ystwyth Building St David's Park Job's Well Road Carmarthen, SA31 3BB Email: FOI.HywelDda@wales.nhs.uk

Powys Teaching Health Board

Information Governance Team Quality & Safety Unit Training Department, Bronllys Hospital Bronllys Brecon Powys, LD3 0LS Email: <u>foi.foi@wales.nhs.uk</u>

Swansea Bay University Health Board

FOIA Team Swansea Bay University Health Board 1 Talbot Gateway Baglan Energy Park Port Talbot, SA12 7BR Email: <u>FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk</u>

Velindre NHS Trust

Communications Team Velindre NHS Trust Headquarters. Unit 2 Charnwood Court, Parc Nantgarw, Nantgarw, Cardiff, CF15 7QZ Email: <u>Corporate.Services2@wales.nhs.uk</u>

<u>WAST</u>

Welsh Ambulance Service (NHS) Trust H.M. Stanley Hospital St Asaph Denbighshire, LL17 0RS Email: <u>FOI.amb@wales.nhs.uk</u>

Public Health Wales

Freedom of Information Office Public Health Wales Floor 3, 2 Capital Quarter Tyndall Street Cardiff, CF10 4BZ Email: <u>foi.phw@wales.nhs.uk</u>