

Covid-19 Deaths and Funding allocation

Can you please confirm how many deaths have been confirmed in the Belfast Trust between March 2020 to March 2021 that have covid-19 listed as the cause of death with no other comorbidities listed on the death certificate?

Information contained in this response was gathered from two combined data sources - Mortality Pathway data exported from the Northern Ireland Electronic Care Record (NIECR)* and an export from the Public Health Agency (PHA) COVID-19 deaths reporting form database.

Deaths identified for the purpose of reporting:

*Any death identified with one or more of the following terminology included on any part of the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) and/or a COVID positive PCR test.

Terms:

- Covid(pneumonia/pneumonitis)
- Covid19(pneumonia/pneumonitis)
- Covid 19(pneumonia/pneumonitis)
- Covid-19(pneumonia/pneumonitis)
- SARS-Cov2(pneumonia/pneumonitis)
- Coronavirus (pneumonia/pneumonitis)

o PHA reporting Criteria: Report all individuals who have died within 28 days of a first positive COVID-19 laboratory result (based on specimen date), whether or not COVID-19 was the cause of death.

o All other deaths in which COVID-19 is clinically suspected (i.e. without a positive laboratory test result) should be recorded on the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD).

From 1 March 2020 until 31 March 2021 inclusive there were 10 cases that had one of the above terms recorded on part 1a of the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death(MCCD) and nothing else recorded in parts 1b,1c or on Part 2.

From 1 March 2020 until 31 March 2021 inclusive, there were a total of 442 cases identified who were reported to either the PHA and/or the Department of Health. 432 (97.7%) had one or more conditions/causes other than COVID-19 also recorded on the MCCD.

Can you please confirm how much money the Belfast Trust is paid for each individual covid-19 tested positive patient and registered death with covid-19 listed as cause of death?

We are funded by Department of Health through the HSC Board to provide a range of clinical services. Whilst some additional funding was received by the Trust for additional services specifically implemented or extended for COVID, for example COVID testing, funding for COVID patient care would be covered within the Trust's



total annual budget. It is therefore not possible to attribute specific funding to any individual patients.