

29 May 2023

Never Events

1. Can the Trust provide a list of categories which fall under its current definition of a 'Never Event'?

Never Events were first introduced to Northern Ireland in 2016 and based on NHS England criteria. NHS England define Never Events as *'serious incidents that are wholly preventable as guidance or safety recommendations that provide strong systemic protective barriers are already available at a national level and should have been implemented by all healthcare providers.'*

See attached PDF document.

Never Events are defined regionally by the Department of Health. A list of current criteria for reporting Never Events has been attached ref: circular HSC (SQSD) 4/22 20 January 2022.

See attached PDF document

2. Number of 'Never Events' which have taken place across the Trust in the last five years, broken down by year?

Site	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Belfast City Hospital	0	1	1	3	1
Forester Green Hospital	1	0	0	0	0
Independent Sector Providers	0	2	0	1	0
Mater Hospital	0	2	0	0	0
Musgrave Park Hospital	1	2	1	1	0
Royal Group of Hospitals	6	5	5	4	1

*includes data up to 13/05/2024

3. How many, if any, of these 'Never Events' resulted in the death of a patient in the last five years?

2020**	2021**	2022**	2023**	2024**
1	0	0	0	0

***This data was initially run on SAls based on a Never Event with a Catastrophic severity. Further follow-up was then completed to establish if the incident ultimately resulted in the death of a patient.*