

3 September 2025

Air Pollution Exposure

Question 1. *The number of times a patient was admitted where exposure to air pollution (International Classification of Diseases, tenth revision (ICD-10) code Z581)* was recorded as a contributing factor to the admission.*

(I understand this is the code used by NHS trusts to log exposure to air pollution, but if your trust uses a different code or some other system, please still provide the relevant data)*

Please Note: We cannot identify if Z581 exposure to air pollution was a contributing factor to the admission, only that it was recorded as a secondary diagnosis on the admission record.

Number of admissions with a respiratory primary diagnosis and Z581 recorded as a secondary diagnosis.

Year	Total
2020	11
2021	<10
2022	<10
2023	10
2024	<10

Where numbers are low we have indicated <10 rather than give the exact figure. We feel that providing the exact figure has the potential to make people identifiable and so that information is exempt from release under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Question 2. *1a. If possible, please tell me what the primary diagnosis was for each of these admissions.*

(For clarity, I want to know total numbers admitted with each primary diagnosis — for example, if 45 people were admitted with a primary diagnosis of asthma where exposure to air pollution was identified as a contributing factor.)

Number of admissions with a respiratory primary diagnosis and Z581 recorded as a secondary diagnosis by primary diagnosis.

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Primary Diagnosis	Admissions
Bronchopneumonia, Unspecified	<10
Lobar Pneumonia, Unspecified	<10
Pneumonia Due To Pseudomonas	<10
Pneumonia, Unspecified	<10
Unspecified Acute Lower Respiratory Infection	<10
Bronchiectasis	<10
Chron Obstruct Pulmonary Dis Wth Acute Exacerbation, Unspec	<10
Chronic Obstruct Pulmonary Dis With Acute Lower Resp Infec	<10
Pneumonitis Due To Food And Vomit	<10
Interstitial Pulmonary Disease, Unspecified	<10
Other Interstitial Pulmonary Diseases With Fibrosis	<10
Pleural Effusion, Not Elsewhere Classified	<10
Pleural Plaque Without Asbestos	<10
Pyothorax With Fistula	<10
Respiratory Failure, Unspecified	<10
Emergency Use Of U07.1	<10
Grand Total	44

Where numbers are low we have indicated <10 rather than give the exact figure. We feel that providing the exact figure has the potential to make people identifiable and so that information is exempt from release under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Question 3. 2. Please tell me how many of the patients in question 1 subsequently died in hospital.

Number of admissions with a respiratory primary diagnosis and Z581 recorded as a secondary diagnosis who subsequently died in hospital.

Year	Total
2020	<10
2021	<10
2022	<10
2023	<10
2024	<10
Grand Total	<10

Where numbers are low we have indicated <10 rather than give the exact figure. We feel that providing the exact figure has the potential to make people identifiable and so that information is exempt from release under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Notes:-

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We cannot identify if Z58.1 Air Pollution was recorded as a contributing factor to the admission; we can only provide details of admissions when the clinical coding team have coded the episode using the ICD-10 code Z58.1. We have included patients with a primary diagnosis of Diseases of the Respiratory System Chapter J and Z58.1 included as a secondary diagnosis.

The information has been split by Year rather than year and months due to the low numbers. There is a lag with clinical coding so we are only able to provide data till the end of 2024.