

8 April 2026

## Meningitis

FOI request regarding meningitis.

Please could you provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

1. The number of patients presenting with suspected or confirmed meningitis across your A&E departments, broken down by month, over the past three years

Data is broken down from March – Feb over the past 3 years.

Year	Month	Total
2023	March	8
	April	<5
	May	8
	June	<5
	July	<5
	August	8
	September	6
	October	7
	November	7
	December	<5
2024	January	11
	February	8
	March	6
	April	5
	May	<5
	June	6
	July	13
	August	9
	September	<5
	October	6
November	14	
December	7	
2025	January	7
	February	10
	March	12
	April	9
	May	<5
	June	9
	July	13

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	August	9
	September	17
	October	<5
	November	8
	December	5
2026	January	5
	February	<5

**2. The average waiting time in A&E for patients presenting with suspected meningitis symptoms**

The average waiting time of the above patients was 5hrs 49mins

**3. The number of cases where meningitis was initially misdiagnosed or where there was a delayed diagnosis**

Belfast Trust does not hold this information

**4. The number of deaths where meningitis was recorded as a contributing factor**

Belfast Trust does not hold this information

**5. The number of NHS 111 calls routed to you referencing meningitis symptoms, if held**

NHS 111 is not a service in Northern Ireland

**Use of <5 (less than five):** We are unable to provide an exact figure - exempt from release under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act - Personal Information relating to a third party, as the small numbers involved could make patients personally identifiable. Disclosure would constitute a breach of the principles of the General Data Protection Regulation 2018.