

16 June 2026

Number of asbestos-related illness referrals in under 21s

Please provide the following information from the financial years 2020/2021 to the end of the financial year 2025/2026:

1) The total number of patients aged under 21 who presented, or were referred within your organisation with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of an asbestos-related disease, including but not limited to: mesothelioma, asbestosis, pleural plaques, pleural effusion attributed to asbestos exposure, or diffuse pleural thickening.

2) Please break this figure down by financial year. Where the number of cases in any given year is five or fewer, please state "<5" rather than the exact figure.

3) Please confirm whether your organisation holds any coded data for these conditions in patients aged under 21, even if no cases have been recorded during the period.

We are unable to identify any referrals specifically for Asbestos related conditions, this would require a manual trawl of all respiratory records which would take an excess of 18 hours to complete and so would be withheld under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000).