

12 January 2022

Covid-19 Healthcare Associated Infections (HCAI) – February 2020 to most recent date possible

Can Health Trusts provide me with the number of staff/patients/visitors who contracted probable or definite Covid-19 HCAI from February 2020 to the most recent date possible?

During the period between 1 March 2020 and 31 October 2021, there were 450 definite and probable healthcare associated infections (HCAI) of Covid-19 within the Belfast Trust.

If possible, can you break the infections into months and include overall totals?

The number of probable and definite HCAs of Covid-19 within Belfast Trust split by month between 1 March 2020 and 31 October 2021 has been provided in the table below.

Month	Number of HCAI's
Mar-20	<10
Apr-20	29
May-20	12
Jun-20	<10
Aug-20	<10
Sep-20	<10
Oct-20	46
Nov-20	67
Dec-20	69
Jan-21	78
Feb-21	16
Mar-21	12
Apr-21	<10
May-21	<10
Jun-21	<10
Jul-21	<10
Aug-21	40
Sep-21	20
Oct-21	27
<i>Total</i>	<i>450</i>

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Can you then detail how many of these patients with Covid HCAs were admitted to ICU?

Of the 450 definite and probable HCAs of Covid-19, 59 patients required admission to an ICU ward within Belfast Trust.

Notes

The information provided above relates only to patients who contracted a HCAI of Covid whilst an inpatient within the Belfast Trust, as such the figures would not include any staff member or visitor unless they were an inpatient receiving treatment.

In response to the FOI only those HCAs classified as definite and probable have been included.

Classifications for Covid-19 health care acquired infections are as follows:

- a definite healthcare associated infection (HCAI) case has illness onset (or first positive specimen date) 15 or more days after admission
- a probable HCAI as having illness onset (or first positive specimen date) between 8 and 14 days after admission
- an indeterminate HCAI is illness onset on days 3 to 7 after admission.

Day of admission is classed as day one

Data on nosocomial (HCAI) infections is based on discharge data - as such, current inpatients are not included.

Figures are under continuous validation and as such may be subject to change.

Cell sizes less than 10 have been masked to protect patient confidentiality.

And of these Covid HCAI patients, how many died (that is whether they were admitted to ICU or not)?

During the period between 1 March 2020 and 31 October 2021, out of the 450 definite and probable HCAs of Covid-19, 108 patients died within the Belfast Trust, 5 of which were admitted to ICU.