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Information concerning Falls, Absconding from Hospital and related Compensation Claims

All questions are in relation to inpatients at the Trust. Please can your response be in a table format sorted by hospital/ward, then by the total number of falls per year up to and including this year.

1. I would like to request any data you hold on falls from the last 5 years. (Question 2 and 3 are an expansion of this question).
2. I am looking for the total number of falls sorted by hospital from the last 5 years.

Incident Report of Inpatient Falls on Hospital Sites

Incident Date: 01 January 2017 to 30 September 2021 by Calendar Year (as approved at 05/10/21)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Belfast City Hospital Site	578	606	686	504	264
Forster Green Hospital Site	2	11	5	17	6
Knockbracken Healthcare Park Site	146	115	114	120	91
Mater Hospital Site	466	490	479	327	283
Muckamore Abbey Hospital Site	122	109	107	131	77
Musgrave Park Hospital Site	321	373	290	250	160
Royal Group of Hospitals Site	1123	1060	960	1176	887

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3. I am looking for the total number of falls sorted by ward from the last 3 years.

Reported Inpatient Falls by Ward/Theatre Area Location Types and Calendar Year (as approved at 05/10/21)

Incident Date: 01 January 2019 to 30 September 2021 by Calendar Year (as approved at 05/10/21)

	2019	2020	2021
01 North (BCH) - Occupational Therapy Dept	1	0	0
01 South (BCH Direct) (BCH)	5	4	0
02 North (BCH)	14	7	0
02 South (BCH)	20	8	0
03 North (BCH)	1	0	0
03 South (BCH)	20	9	0
05 East (BCH)	0	1	0
05 South (BCH)	8	10	8
06 North (BCH)	31	18	7
06 South (BCH)	78	26	0
07 North (BCH)	82	36	8
07 South (BCH)	102	32	11
08 North (BCH)	25	14	6
08 South (BCH)	45	34	9
09 North (BCH)	17	5	1
09 South (BCH)	1	0	0
10 North (Haematology) (BCH)	16	17	13
11 North GN (General Nephrology) (BCH)	21	13	8

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11 South - incl Renal Transplant (BCH)	11	4	8
Acute Oncology/Haematology Unit (BCH)	2	0	1
Adult Rheumatology Unit - Withers 3A (MPH)	11	7	1
Ardmore (MAH) (prev Killead and Donegore) (Retired 04.06.2021)	54	50	10
Avoca Ward (KHCP) code retired 24.06.19	19	0	0
Beechcroft - Adolescent Unit Ward 1 (FGH)	4	8	4
Beechcroft - Children's Unit Ward 2 (FGH)	1	9	2
Cardiac Surgery Intensive Care Unit (CSICU) (RVH)	2	1	0
Cath Labs (RVH)	0	2	1
Cherry Tree House (RBHSC)	0	0	1
Children's Haematology Unit (RBHSC)	2	2	1
Clare Ward / Low Secure Unit (LSU) (KHCP)	6	12	8
Clark Clinic (RBHSC)	0	2	5
Coronary Care Unit (CCU) (MAT)	30	23	32
Cranfield 1 (MAH)	3	9	6
Cranfield 2 (MAH)	28	11	7
Cranfield ICU (MAH)	0	1	0
Day Care Unit (RBHSC)	0	1	0
Day Case Theatre (including DPU) (BCH)	0	1	0
Day of Surgery (DSU) (RVH)	7	1	0
Day Surgery Unit / Day of Surgery (02 East) (BCH)	0	0	1
Dialysis Unit - Graham Gambro - (Ground Floor, back Tower) (BCH)	5	7	5
Donegore (MAH)	0	0	9
Erne 1 (MAH)	14	49	13

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Forest Lodge (MPH)	2	0	0
Escalation Area (RVH)	1	4	0
Forest Lodge (MPH)	3	0	0
High Dependency Unit - HDU (RVH)	6	2	0
Intensive Care Unit (ICU) (BCH)	0	1	0
Intensive Care Unit (ICU) (MAT)	2	0	0
Johnston House (RJMh)	0	1	0
Killead (MAH)	0	0	28
Knockbracken Clinic Male (KHCP)	1	1	0
Level 7 Critical Care Building (RVH)	0	16	31
Level 8 Critical Care Building (RVH)	0	3	3
Major Trauma Ward (RVH)	0	1	4
Maternity Assessment Unit (MAU) (RJMh)	0	3	0
Meadowlands Ward 1 (MPH)	51	29	14
Meadowlands Ward 2 (MPH)	62	56	25
Meadowlands Ward 3 (MPH)	1	0	1
Neurobehavioural Rehabilitation Unit - NRU (formerly Maine) KB	13	15	7
Neurological Unit (MPH)	23	15	22
PICU (RBHSC)	0	1	0
Rathlin Ward (KHCP) code retired 24.06.19	11	0	0
Regional Acquired Brain Injury Unit (RABIU) (MPH)	36	28	18
Regional Intensive Care Unit (RICU) (RVH)	3	7	3
Rheumatology Ward 5 (MPH)	0	1	2
Shannon - Off Ward (KHCP)	3	4	1

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Shannon - Ward 1 (KHCP)	1	15	1
Shannon - Ward 2 (KHCP)	11	14	32
Shannon - Ward 3 (KHCP)	1	3	3
Sixmile Assessment (MAH)	3	10	4
Sixmile Treatment (MAH)	5	1	0
Theatre 4 (RVH)	0	1	0
Valencia Ward (KHCP)	47	56	39
Ward 02E (RVH)	4	13	5
Ward 02F (RVH)	27	16	13
Ward 04A (RVH)	39	62	21
Ward 04B - Dialysis (RVH)	1	0	0
Ward 04B (RVH)	50	24	20
Ward 04C (RVH)	14	22	25
Ward 04D Spinal Injury (RVH)	20	34	16
Ward 04E (RVH)	55	46	42
Ward 04F (RVH)	39	43	20
Ward 05A Cardio Thoracic (RVH)	40	37	28
Ward 05B (RVH)	4	1	13
Ward 05C (RVH)	37	33	35
Ward 05D (RVH)	17	21	17
Ward 05E (Care of the Elderly) (RVH)	0	16	58
Ward 05E Respiratory (RVH) (retired 23.10.20)	47	41	0
Ward 05F (RVH)	38	62	45
Ward 06A EMSU (RVH)	24	27	18

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Ward 06B General Surgery (RVH)	34	28	17
Ward 06C Vascular (RVH)	53	63	58
Ward 06D (RVH)	60	64	43
Ward 06E (RVH)	28	55	41
Ward 06F (RVH)	37	46	37
Ward 07A (RVH)	58	59	41
Ward 07B (Acute Medical Unit) (RVH)	52	92	66
Ward 07C (Acute Medical Unit) (RVH)	78	129	75
Ward 07D (RVH)	47	55	51
Ward 1 - Mental Health Inpatient Centre (BCH)	51	76	48
Ward 2 - Mental Health Inpatient Centre (BCH)	14	32	23
Ward 28 (RVH)	4	2	1
Ward 29 (RVH)	24	14	11
Ward 2A (NI Cancer Centre) (BCH)	30	36	28
Ward 2B (NI Cancer Centre) (BCH)	27	34	31
Ward 3 - Mental Health Inpatient Centre (BCH)	9	15	26
Ward 31 (RVH)	2	0	0
Ward 3A (NI Cancer Centre) (BCH)	5	5	1
Ward 3B (NI Cancer Centre) (BCH) (code retired May 21)	12	9	2
Ward 4 - Mental Health Inpatient Centre (BCH)	15	22	3
Ward 5 - Mental Health Inpatient Centre (BCH)	17	27	15
Ward A (MAT)	43	33	26
Ward A (RJMh)	0	2	0
Ward Allen (RBHSC)	0	0	1

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Ward B (MAT)	72	56	34
Ward Barbour (RBHSC)	2	0	2
Ward Belvoir (RBHSC)	2	2	1
Ward C (MAT)	65	48	45
Ward C (RJMh)	0	1	1
Ward D (MAT)	74	71	59
Ward E (Acute Medical Unit) (MAT)	67	51	69
Ward E (RJMh)	0	2	0
Ward F (MAT)	39	45	18
Ward J (MAT) code retired 24.06.19	47	0	0
Ward K (MAT) code retired 24.06.19	14	0	0
Ward Knox (RBHSC)	0	0	1
Ward L (MAT) code retired 24.06.19	26	0	0
Ward Paul (RBHSC)	0	4	4
Withers 1A (SCIU) (MPH)	17	7	7
Withers 1B (Limb Fitting Service) (MPH)	4	2	1
Withers 2A - Pre-operative Assessment (MPH)	0	0	1
Withers 2B - Children's Ward (MPH)	1	0	1
Withers Reception (MPH)	1	0	0
Withers/ Ortho Ward 4A (MPH)	16	7	19
Withers/ Ortho Ward 4B (MPH)	21	27	14
Withers/ Ortho Ward 5B (MPH)	22	22	7
Withers/ Ortho Ward 6A (MPH)	17	30	18
Withers/ Ortho Ward 6B (MPH) orthopaedics & enhanced recovery	1	19	8
Cancer Centre (unknown/ unspecified area) (BCH)	0	1	1
Unspecified/ Unknown Ward	5	12	12

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4. I would also like to request all NHS email addresses for ward managers and falls leads/groups within the Trust. Or the person responsible for reducing the number of falls within the Trust?

Falls support comes under the professional remit of Brenda Creaney, Executive Director of Nursing, User Experience and Allied Health Professionals, Email: Brenda.creaney@belfasttrust.hscni.net. This sits within the safety remit of one of the senior nurses. It is managed via the Trust's safety governance arrangements at Directorate level within our assurance arrangements to Trust Board, as part of the Quality Management System.

The Falls Forum is chaired by Karen Devenney and, pre-COVID, met 6-weekly. There was representation from the following staff groups, Nursing, Medicine, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Podiatry, Pharmacy, Nurse Development Lead, Manual Handling/Ergonomics Trainers, Emergency Department Clinical Educator, Health & Safety Manager, Fallsafe Co-ordinator, Lead Nurse Patient Safety and Quality and Community Physiotherapy.

Lead staff are:

Karen Devenney, Senior Manager Patient Safety & Quality (Chair) Karen.Devenney@Belfasttrust.hscni.net
Dr Mark Cross, Deputy Medical Director, Risk & Safety (Co Chair) Mark.cross@belfasttrust.hscni.net
Ann McQueen, Physiotherapist Ann.McQueen@belfasttrust.hscni.net
Siobhan E Kelly, Lead Nurse, Patient Safety & Quality SiobhanEKelly@belfasttrust.hscni.net
Colin Williamson, Lead Nurse, Head Injury Liaison Nurse Colin.Williamson@belfasttrust.hscni.net
Philip Boyle, Health & Safety Manager Philip.Boyle@belfasttrust.hscni.net

5. From the last 5 years on average how much does the Trust pay out in compensation claims in relation to falls.

Of the cases closed and where compensation was payable between the period 01/04/2016 - 31/03/21, the average figure for compensation is £6,543.19.

Caveat – These figures include claims for compensation from both Trust staff and patients/visitors occasioned by slips, trips and falls. Due to how these incidents are coded, we cannot separate “falls” from slips or trips.

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6. Can you also provide the number of patients that absconded from the wards and which wards were affected for the last 3 years? (absconded – an inpatient that has left a ward without informing a staff member, making them a missing person)

FOI/25497

**Incident Report of Missing Patients (absconded/ abducted patient) on Hospital Sites by Ward and Theatre Area Location Types
Incident Date: 01 January 2019 to 30 September 2021 by Calendar Year (as approved at 05/10/21)**

Please note: Wards with larger numbers of incidents involve patients whose behaviour is a result of their medical condition.

	2019	2020	2021
1 South (BCH)	1	0	0
03 South (BCH)	1	0	0
03 North	1	0	0
06 North (BCH)	1	0	0
07 North (BCH)	1	1	0
07 South (BCH)	2	2	1
08 North (BCH)	2	0	0
08 South (BCH)	2	0	0
09 North (BCH)	0	1	0
10 North (Haematology) (BCH)	1	0	0
11 North GN (General Nephrology) (BCH)	0	1	0
Ardmore (MAH) (prev Killead and Donegore) (Retired 04.06.2021)	9	2	1
Avoca	1	0	0
Beechcroft - Adolescent Unit Ward 1 (FGH)	67	13	9

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Beechcroft - Children's Unit Ward 2 (FGH)	61	26	24
Clare Ward / Low Secure Unit (LSU) (KHCP)	15	9	12
Coronary Care Unit (CCU) (MAT)	2	1	2
Cranfield 1 (MAH)	2	0	0
Cranfield 2 (MAH)	1	2	1
Dialysis Unit - Graham Gambro - (Ground Floor, back Tower) (BCH)	0	1	0
Erne 1 (MAH) (code retired Oct 21)	0	3	1
Forest Lodge (MPH)	0	1	0
Intensive Care Unit (ICU) (MAT)	0	1	0
Killead (MAH)	0	0	1
Meadowlands Ward 2 (MPH)	1	0	0
Rathlin Ward (KHCP) (Retired 24.06.19)	38	0	0
Regional Acquired Brain Injury Unit (RABIU) (MPH)	5	3	4
Shannon - Off Ward (KHCP)	0	1	0
Shannon - Ward 1 (KHCP)	2	0	1
Shannon - Ward 2 (KHCP)	2	1	0
Shannon - Ward 3 (KHCP)	1	3	3
Sixmile Treatment (MAH)	1	1	1
Valencia Ward (KHCP)	0	0	1
Ward 02E (RVH)	2	0	1
Ward 02F (RVH)	1	5	2
Ward 04A (RVH)	3	2	2
Ward 04B (RVH)	3	0	1
Ward 04C (RVH)	0	0	2
Ward 04D Spinal Injury (RVH)	1	1	2

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Ward 04E (RVH)	6	4	1
Ward 04F (RVH)	5	4	1
Ward 05B (RVH)	0	0	1
Ward 05C (RVH)	2	1	2
Ward 05D (RVH)	0	1	0
Ward 05E Respiratory (RVH) (code retired 23.10.20)	2	1	0
Ward 05F (RVH)	3	3	1
Ward 06A EMSU (RVH)	3	1	0
Ward 06B General Surgery (RVH)	0	8	2
Ward 06D (RVH)	6	4	4
Ward 06E (RVH)	1	0	1
Ward 07A (RVH)	4	2	2
Ward 07B (Acute Medical Unit) (RVH)	1	8	4
Ward 07C (Acute Medical Unit) (RVH)	0	4	0
Ward 07D (RVH)	2	3	2
Ward 1 - Mental Health Inpatient Centre (BCH)	0	0	1
Ward 2 - Mental Health Inpatient Centre (BCH)	26	17	10
Ward 28 (RVH)	2	0	0
Ward 29 (RVH)	3	1	0
Ward 2B (NI Cancer Centre) (BCH)	1	0	1
Ward 3 - Mental Health Inpatient Centre (BCH)	21	22	22
Ward 4 - Mental Health Inpatient Centre (BCH)	2	3	2
Ward 5 - Mental Health Inpatient Centre (BCH)	6	6	8
Ward A (MAT)	1	2	1

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Ward A (RJMh)	0	1	2
Ward B (MAT)	2	3	0
Ward C (MAT)	3	0	0
Ward D (MAT)	4	4	3
Ward E (Acute Medical Unit) (MAT)	3	2	3
Ward E (RJMh)	0	1	0
Ward F (MAT)	2	1	0
Ward J (MAT) (code retired 24.06.19)	42	0	0
Ward K (MAT)(code retired 24.06.19)	23	0	0
Ward L (MAT) (code retired 24.06.19)	4	0	0
Withers/ Ortho Ward 5B (MPH)	1	0	0
Withers/ Ortho Ward 6A (MPH)	0	1	0
Unspecified/ Unknown Ward	1	5	2
Total	412	194	148

- Inpatient mental health services - area with highest rates
- Considerable work in this area has shown real time reduction in rates of absconding.
- Affected by the provision of custom-built Mental Health unit at Belfast City Hospital.
- Learning from prior incidents led to purpose built design modifications, which have contributed to reduced rates e.g. Press Button doors slow open mechanism, which gives staff more time to reach patient/service user. Interlinked communal areas on exit of ward areas also allows higher visibility and increases time taken to exit, allowing staff more time to react.

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- Mental Health services report to the DOH using a Key Performance Indicator for four wards on the Belfast City Hospital site. An anti-absconding bundle is completed for patients enabling the development of a risk stratification tool.
- Key characteristics/triggers are used to identify those at higher risk of absconding.
- Of the incidents reported 2019-2021 < 10% were classified as medium/moderate or above.

Summary of learning from incidents

- Vital role of communication between ward area/security and PSNI at all stages of process.
- Involvement of family in assessing risk and identifying possible locations.
- Use of safety brief to highlight those at risk of absconding.
- Ensuring patients on correct treatment pathways to reduce risk, e.g. delirium pathway/alcohol withdrawal pathway
- Appropriate use of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) legislation
- Handover periods identified as time of greatest risk of absconding.

Key factors

- Communication
- Supervision
- Appropriate treatment plans.

7. In the last 5 years on average how much the Trust pay out in compensation claims in relation to absconds from a ward cost the trust.

The average figure for compensation is £6,250.