

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5307

**Please reply to:**  
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### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to a Weapon enabled assault.

*You asked:*

*How many patients in your trust aged 11-25 attended either an Emergency Department or other urgent care setting for a weapon enabled assault / assault resulting in a wound between: 1 January 2018 and the 31 December 2018*

Trust response:

**IMPORTANT:** The vast majority of these cases are short-stay admissions to the Clinical Decision Units. Use of these units has effectively doubled over the past couple of years thanks to an increase in capacity.

Whilst the severity of the injury is impossible to quantify from the data available, only 30% of all Assault with a sharp object patients stayed overnight, and only 14% went on to wards other than the assessment / decision units.

We can only identify those who had the code X99 Assault with sharp object (which would be likely mainly knife, but could also be for example a broken bottle).

This is for admitted patients, so likely to be the more serious, as those just requiring stitches in A&E and sent home would not be included in this. The A&E diagnosis is far too broad to be able to identify these cases.

6 patients were between 11-25, but none actually under 18 years of age.