

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7959

Please reply to:
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08 February 2023

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 Miscarriage support.

You asked:

1) The total number of cases with a Primary Discharge reason recorded and the total number of cases with a Primary Discharge reason of "Miscarriage".

Please can you provide the data with the following breakdowns:

a) Yearly totals for the years 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017.

b) Level of deprivation of the mother, from 1-Most deprived to 10-Least deprived

c) Racial and/or Ethnic group of the mother, e.g. Asian, Black, White, etc.

2) Available support programs & groups mothers are signposted to after a miscarriage and, if applicable, criteria for receiving support.

3) The total number of bereavement midwives employed by your trust or any other staff/nurses specialised in supporting women after a miscarriage.

Please can you provide the data with the following breakdown:

a) Yearly for the years 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017.

Trust response:

Q1	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
The total number of cases with a Primary Discharge reason recorded	7256	7207	7048	6900	7098	6833
The total number of cases with a Primary Discharge reason of "Miscarriage".	439	475	525	620	648	687

b)						
Deprivation index 1	5	7	8	8	11	11

Deprivation index 2	9	24	12	30	29	29
Deprivation index 3	16	22	26	43	33	35
Deprivation index 4	33	37	42	52	62	62
Deprivation index 5	43	44	43	59	57	55
Deprivation index 6	62	62	71	91	112	109
Deprivation index 7	79	81	89	94	100	108
Deprivation index 8	49	46	69	77	58	92
Deprivation index 9	56	64	75	66	79	72
Deprivation index 10	86	87	89	100	106	114

c)						
Any other Asian background	6	6	12	11	20	29
Any other Black background		2	2	1	2	11
Any other Ethnic Group	3	2	2	6	2	6
Any other mixed background		1	4	6	5	8
Any other White background	48	60	82	91	93	83
Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi	1	1	2	3	2	3
Asian or Asian British: Indian	8	7	3	6	10	15
Asian or Asian British: Pakistani	1	2		2	3	1
Black or Black British: African	1	4	4	5	6	3
Black or Black British: Caribbean			2	2	2	
Mixed: White and Asian	4	2	3		3	2
Mixed: White and Black African	1	1	1		1	1
Mixed: White and Black Caribbean		2	1	1	2	
Not Known	19	17	13	10	4	7
Not stated	3	13	10	5	8	9
Other Ethnic Groups: Chinese	2	2	2	4	2	3
White: British	341	353	375	458	480	505
White: Irish	1		6	9	3	

2) For an early miscarriage (<12+6 weeks):

All women are signposted to the miscarriage association (Given contact cards for the miscarriage association) and they are all given a 'snowdrop' which contains details of a local group supporting families who suffer an early loss. It is a Facebook group that is mediated by some people at our local Sands group.

They are also (if they would like one) offered a Simba box which has details of the Simba charity - another baby loss support group.

EGAU often have toiletries bags from the charity Cradle as well, this would contain information about support Cradle can offer.

A later miscarriage (13 weeks onwards): is offered support from the bereavement midwives as well as all of the above and are encouraged to reach out to Sands.

There are no set criteria for accessing the support offered, it is mainly guided by the families themselves. Some don't wish to have the Simba box/Cradle bag etc whereas some families find it helpful.

The bereavement midwives support women who have had a loss over 13 weeks because of lack of capacity to support everyone who has an early miscarriage, simply because sadly they are so common.

3) 1 whole time equivalent bereavement midwife - shared between 2 midwives

Gynaecology ward nurses are not specifically bereavement trained but they are all aware of the Simba boxes/Snowdrops etc and where to signpost women to for support.

The chaplaincy team are always available to speak to families for support regardless of gestation of their loss so staff regularly signpost to them as well.