

Ref. No: FOI0069
Date: 27/07/23
Subject: Maternal services mortality in infants and babies.

REQUEST

This request is for STHK ONLY

I'm working on a project looking into the statistics rates of maternal services mortality in infants and babies.

I'm writing to request some information regarding Maternity mortality rates for the past 5 years.

I request statistics of the amount and if possible categorised into the reasons for mortality.

For example

2021 – Still births – 13

2022- Still births – 23

Please provide the number of deaths that have occurred in the maternity unit of the hospitals in the trust from 2019-2023. If there have been no deaths, please feel free to just simply reply saying there have been 0 fatalities. Can you also please include a statistic for infants born and deceased for practice reasons e.g. -Excessive Forceps use

Please include:

- The cause of death next to a yearly statistic
- The rate of still births
- how many cases the medical cause identified
- where the medical cause was not identified, how many were referred to the Coroner
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- The policy regarding referral to coroner and when this was last updated
- The number of maternity deaths due to practice performance – EG Forcep use – missed diagnosis (hole in heart) – etc (please don't include mothers infants only)
- Neonatal deaths (Please include those if transferred to another trust E.g. Winter Vernon)
- Early Neonatal deaths (A baby who passes within a week of birth)
- In how many cases of maternal death where a Neonatal death also recorded, was the death an Early Neonatal death?

Can I also request the death rates for those awaiting discharge to residential care homes (elderly care)

Please include

Adult Death rate by month 22-23 – If possible categorised into age ranges.

Discharge numbers for 22- 23 aged 60 +

Discharge time rates for 60 + 22-23

Departmental death rate break down if possible

For example Urology Death rate 2022 – 32 2023 – 14

Thank you for your time.

RESPONSE

**Please note <5 has been added where the number of patients is 5 or less, this information has been redacted to protect patient confidentiality and to ensure that patients can not be identified.

2019 There were 12 stillbirths and <5 neonatal deaths of babies at STHK.

Causes of still birth:

<5 placental cause

<5 identified as infection

<5 maternal causes

<5 fetal cause (hypoxia with severe asymmetric IUGR)

Causes of neonatal deaths:

<5 Infection

<5 extreme prematurity.

<5 neonatal deaths were referred to the coroner.

The neonatal deaths at STHK were not transferred to another unit. They were early neonatal deaths as defined in the request.

Additionally, there were <5 babies born at STHK and transferred to another unit for neonatal care that died at the specialist unit. These babies were all born with a gestation \leq 26 weeks and died from complications of extreme prematurity.

Stillbirth rate 3.00/1000 births as per MBRRACE report.

2020

11 stillbirths and <5 neonatal death.

Causes of stillbirth: 9 placental issues, and 2 were unknown after all completed investigations.

Causes of Neonatal Death: extreme prematurity (22 weeks gestation).

0 cases were referred to the coroner.

Additionally, there were <5 babies born at STHK that were transferred and died at another unit.

Stillbirth rate 3.18/1000 births.

2021

6 stillbirths and <5 neonatal death.

Causes of stillbirth:

<5 had placental issues

<5 unknown causes after all completed investigations.

Cause of the neonatal deaths was extreme prematurity (22 weeks gestation)

<5 stillbirth and <51 neonatal death were referred to the coroner and neither accepted for investigation.

Additionally, there were 6 babies born at STHK, who were then transferred to another unit and subsequently died.

Stillbirth rate 2.93/1000 births.

2022

13 stillbirths and <5 neonatal deaths.

Causes of stillbirths:

<5 placental issues

<5 congenital abnormalities not compatible with life

7 were unknown causes after all investigations completed.

Causes of neonatal deaths:

<5 extreme prematurity (22 weeks gestation)

<5 infection

<5 SIDS.

<5 were referred to the coroner and <5 were accepted.

There were 0 babies born at STHK that subsequently died following transfer to another unit.

Stillbirth rate 3.35/1000 births.

2023

<5 still births and 0 neonatal deaths.

Causes of stillbirth:

<5 placental causes

<5 unknown following completion of all investigations.

0 were referred to the coroner.

There were no babies born at STHK that were transferred to another unit and subsequently died.

Stillbirth rate 2.35/1000 births.