

Question:

The number of patients reporting to NI hospitals with heroin addiction in the years 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Response:

Individuals ¹ admitted to HSC Hospitals in Northern Ireland with a diagnosis of Heroin Poisoning ² and individuals admitted with a diagnosis of opioid poisoning or mental and behavioural disorders due to use of opioids ³									
Trust	Hospital of first admission within year	2020		2021		2022		2023 ^P	
		Heroin Poisoning ²	Opioids ³	Heroin Poisoning ²	Opioids ³	Heroin Poisoning ²	Opioids ³	Heroin Poisoning ²	Opioids ³
Belfast	Belfast City	-	<5	-	<5	<5	12	-	9
	Musgrave Park	-	<5	-	-	-	-	-	<5
	NI Cancer Centre	-	5	-	<5	-	-	-	<5
	Royal Victoria	30	165	17	119	13	135	17	147
	Royal Maternity	-	<5	-	<5	-	<5	-	<5
	RBHSC	-	6	-	8	<5	<5	-	<5
	Mater Infirmorum	6	36	<5	23	-	9	-	20
South Eastern	Ards	-	-	-	<5	-	-	-	-
	Ulster	5	101	<5	92	<5	97	-	52
	Lagan Valley	-	9	-	6	<5	6	-	<5
	Downe	-	<5	-	-	-	<5	-	-
Northern	Causeway	<5	37	<5	22	-	26	-	22
	Whiteabbey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<5
	Moyle	-	-	-	-	-	<5	-	-
	Antrim	12	177	7	131	<5	84	7	90

Southern	Bluestone	-	<5	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Lurgan	-	-	-	<5	-	-	-	-
	South Tyrone	-	<5	-	<5	-	<5	-	<5
	Craigavon Area	5	84	<5	62	<5	46	<5	34
	Daisy Hill	<5	49	<5	38	<5	21	-	23
Western	Altnagelvin Area	-	48	<5	49	-	44	<5	21
	South West Acute	-	20	<5	21	<5	21	-	10
	Omagh	-	-	-	-	-	<5	-	<5

Source: Hospital Inpatient System, Hospital Information Branch, Information & Analysis Directorate, Department of Health, NI.

Cell counts between 1 - 4 have been replaced with "<5" to prevent patient disclosure.

^PData for 2023 is provisional only. Data for South Eastern Trust from 9 November 2023 is not available due to their transition to Encompass, a new electronic patient record system which is being rolled out on a phased basis across NI.

¹ Individuals refers to the number of individuals who were admitted at least once within the time periods given and are approximated through deaths and discharges. Where an individual has been admitted more than once within the time period given, the hospital of the first admission is presented. Admissions to mental health and learning disability programmes of care have not been included.

² The following ICD-10 Codes have been used to identify 'Heroin poisoning' in any of the 17 diagnostic fields in the Hospital Inpatient System:

T401 Poisoning by Heroin

³ The heading of "Opioids" includes either poisoning by or mental and behaviour disorders due to Opioids. Opioids include heroin and a range of other opioid type drugs e.g. methadone, opium, morphine and other opioids like codeine. In ICD-10 clinical coding, heroin cannot be disaggregated from other opioids for admissions for 'mental and behavioural disorders due to use of opioids'.

The following ICD-10 Codes have been used to identify 'Opioids' in any of the 17 diagnostic fields in the Hospital Inpatient System:

F11 Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of opioids
T400 Poisoning by Opium
T401 Poisoning by Heroin
T402 Poisoning by Other Opioids
T403 Poisoning by Methadone

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