

Wednesday, 19th November 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

This is a follow up response relating to a set of questions that you wanted submitted to the Board.

Please find our response below:

- 1 In the response which I received neonatal deaths for 2013 and for 2014 to 30th September were not included. Are you indicating that the Trust does not know on 28/10/14 how many neonatal deaths occurred in 2013 or was none? The same applies to 2014 to 30th September. Please clarify.

This has been covered in the subsequent re-issue of our response to your FOI request and the follow up issuing of neonatal data on 12/11/14.

- 2 I did not request maternal death figures in other Trusts. What I requested is different, see original question. Are you indicating that Homerton has not got any idea how their data on maternal and neonatal death compare to the national average?

You requested a comparison with 'the national average': the Trust does not keep such data for other trusts or the national average.

- 3 In fact the medical director stated at the last governors meeting (23/10/14) that the Trust has a higher than the national average neonatal death though he did not specify how higher it is. It seems that the medical director did have data in his possession in connection with that question. Therefore if such data is in the possession of the Trust please provide them.

The medical director stated that the neonatal mortality is higher in Hackney than the national and London average by borough. He also noted that the neonatal intensive care units in East London have a higher unadjusted mortality than some other units, but that this is related to case-mix and disappears once account is taken of risk factors such as gestational age, and birth weight. The Trust does not hold data on mortality at other Trusts or the national average across trusts.

The infant mortality rate in the London Borough of Hackney for the three-year period from 2009 to 2011 was 4.9 deaths in the first year of life per 1,000 live births. This was a slight fall from the period 2008 to 2010, when the figure was 5.6 deaths (Table 5.3). The rate for 2009 to 2011 was slightly higher than the national and London averages, which both stood at 4.4 deaths. P 70, City and Hackney Health and Wellbeing Profile, JSNA data update, January 2014.

The report does not identify networks by name, but the North-East London adjusted mortality is below 1.0. <https://www1.imperial.ac.uk/resources/942139F4-70F8-4B71-9841-A06D148E60C8/ndau2012mortalityreport.pdf>

If you have any queries about this response please contact the information governance manager at foi@homerton.nhs.uk , in the first instance. If, following that, you still have any concerns, you may contact the Information Commissioner either by letter, FOI/EIR Complaints resolution, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SM9 5AF, or by email www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk to take them further.

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Yours sincerely

Mike Dunne
Information Governance Manager/Deputy Calidcott Guardian