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23rd May 2025

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[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference: Colorectal Cancer Trends in Postpartum Women

I am writing in response to your request for information under the FOI 2000.

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold some of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

Home, Community, Hospital.

FOI Request / Question	Question Response														
<p>1 - Primary Requests Please provide the following information in a tabulated format for two periods: 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2020 (pre-COVID vaccine rollout) and 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024 (post-rollout). If exact figures are low (e.g., <5), provide a range (e.g., 1–2, 3–4) or confirm zero cases. All patient data should be anonymised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 3 or 4 Colorectal Cancer in Postpartum Women (2017–2020): For female patients under 45 years old diagnosed with stage 3 or 4 colorectal/bowel cancer (any subtype, e.g., sigmoid adenocarcinoma) who were postpartum (having given birth within 12 months prior to diagnosis): • Stage 3 or 4 Colorectal Cancer in Postpartum Women (2021–2024): For female patients under 45 diagnosed with stage 3 or 4 colorectal/bowel cancer (any subtype, e.g., sigmoid 	<p>*Staging data was not robustly measured in the early years of the request which affects the figures.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="757 517 2152 1198"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="757 517 1160 858"></th> <th data-bbox="1160 517 1384 858">Total number diagnosed.</th> <th data-bbox="1384 517 1532 858">Number who died within 12 months of diagnosis (exact number or range if <5).</th> <th data-bbox="1532 517 1688 858">Total number of deaths up to 31 December 2020.</th> <th data-bbox="1688 517 2152 858">Survival duration (in months) from diagnosis to death for each deceased case</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="757 858 1160 1198">Stage 3 or 4 Colorectal Cancer in Postpartum Women (2017–2020): For female patients under 45 years old diagnosed with stage 3 or 4 colorectal/bowel cancer (any subtype, e.g., sigmoid adenocarcinoma) who were postpartum (having given</td> <td data-bbox="1160 858 1384 1198">0</td> <td data-bbox="1384 858 1532 1198">0</td> <td data-bbox="1532 858 1688 1198">0</td> <td data-bbox="1688 858 2152 1198">0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Total number diagnosed.	Number who died within 12 months of diagnosis (exact number or range if <5).	Total number of deaths up to 31 December 2020.	Survival duration (in months) from diagnosis to death for each deceased case	Stage 3 or 4 Colorectal Cancer in Postpartum Women (2017–2020): For female patients under 45 years old diagnosed with stage 3 or 4 colorectal/bowel cancer (any subtype, e.g., sigmoid adenocarcinoma) who were postpartum (having given	0	0	0	0
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<p>adenocarcinoma) who were postpartum (having given birth within 12 months prior to diagnosis):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Stage 3 or 4 Cancers (2017–2020): For all patients (all ages, all genders) diagnosed with stage 3 or 4 cancer (any type): • All Stage 3 or 4 Cancers (2021–2024): For all patients (all ages, all genders) diagnosed with stage 3 or 4 cancer (any type): 	<p>birth within 12 months prior to diagnosis):</p>				
	<p>Stage 3 or 4 Colorectal Cancer in Postpartum Women (2021–2024): For female patients under 45 diagnosed with stage 3 or 4 colorectal/bowel cancer (any subtype, e.g., sigmoid adenocarcinoma) who were postpartum (having given birth within 12 months prior to diagnosis):</p>	0	0	0	0
	<p>All Stage 3 or 4 Cancers (2017–2020): For all patients (all ages, all genders) diagnosed with stage 3 or 4 cancer (any type):</p>	189	34	36	1, 2, 1, 6, 1, 6, 0, 6, 10, 3, 11, 4, 7, 3, 8, 9, 13, 10, 1, 1, 3, 2, 11, 4, 5, 1, 18, 2, 16, 16, 4, 22, 3, 1, 10, 6

	<p>All Stage 3 or 4 Cancers (2021–2024): For all patients (all ages, all genders) diagnosed with stage 3 or 4 cancer (any type):</p>	<p>411</p>	<p>116</p>	<p>210</p>	<p>2, 12, 8, 18, 7, 22, 16, 1, 28, 1, 24, 3, 28, 2, 1, 7, 4, 7, 21, 1, 9, 0, 21, 1, 24, 13, 2, 18, 7, 8, 4, 7, 1, 3, 25, 29, 1, 4, 6, 30, 29, 15, 24, 10, 19, 7, 20, 9, 8, 0, 19, 11, 13, 16, 5, 4, 4, 7, 11, 5, 1, 17, 4, 11, 26, 9, 19, 3, 1, 19, 8, 9, 15, 11, 20, 11, 9, 11, 22, 5, 22, 25, 12, 11, 3, 28, 30, 14, 22, 7, 8, 32, 42, 7, 19, 7, 16, 36, 27, 21, 32, 20, 0, 0, 45, 0, 31, 3, 40, 24, 12, 2, 2, 32, 22, 44, 41, 1, 39, 18, 13, 4, 42, 15, 22, 4, 37, 1, 8, 5, 21, 41, 4, 22, 6, 52, 43, 2, 25, 27, 51, 3, 1, 1, 0, 23, 2, 56, 27, 43, 53, 2, 36, 53, 3, 33, 42, 13, 36, 31, 18, 4, 2, 2, 7, 26, 0, 1, 3, 17, 60, 10, 39, 60, 46, 32, 3, 12, 36, 11, 4, 1, 36, 2, 1, 4, 38, 11, 1, 0, 6, 2, 61, 1, 1, 19, 2, 4, 4, 11, 1, 19, 1, 10, 24, 22, 1, 12, 1, 32,</p>		
<p>2 - Supplementary Requests To investigate potential contributing factors (e.g., diagnostic delays, environmental triggers), please provide the following anonymised details for patients in Requests 1 and 2 (postpartum</p>	<p>Information not held.</p>						

<p>women under 45 with stage 3 or 4 colorectal cancer):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Vaccination Status: If available, provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of patients vaccinated (anonymised). b. Vaccine type (e.g., Pfizer, AstraZeneca) and number of doses. c. Timing of vaccination relative to pregnancy or diagnosis (e.g., pre-pregnancy, during pregnancy, post-diagnosis). • Diagnosis Timing: Month and year of diagnosis for each case (anonymised). 				
<p>3 - Concerning the Stage and Progression of Cancer: The cancer stage at the time of diagnosis (Stage 3 or 4) for each case (anonymised). If any cases were initially diagnosed at Stage 1 or 2 but later progressed to Stage 3 or 4, please indicate the number of such cases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment and Outcomes: Whether patients received treatment (e.g., surgery, chemotherapy) and outcomes (e.g., remission, progression, death), anonymised. • Genetic Testing or Biopsy Analysis: Whether 	<p>Information not held.</p>			

<p>cases underwent tumour genetic testing (e.g., APC, P53, MMR, KRAS, BRAF) or biopsy analysis for contaminants (e.g., SV40 promoter, plasmid ORI, spike protein). If so, provide anonymised results (e.g., mutation types, presence of contaminants).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting and Referrals: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Whether cases or deaths were reported to the MHRA (e.g., Yellow Card scheme) or MBRRACE-UK. Whether deaths were referred to the coroner, including number and reasons (anonymised). 				
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I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email casework@ico.org.uk.

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance Team

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.

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