



40-42 Friars Walk
Lewes
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BN7 2XW

Tel: 0300 123 0999

Email: foi@secamb.nhs.uk

23rd May 2016

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/16/04/43.

You requested the following information:

I am a first year Paramedic student at Bournemouth University. Myself and a group of students are creating a health promotion poster on fall prevention. I am attempting to obtain statistics on the number of calls that were for falls for the year 2015. If possible, information on mechanical falls specifically would be ideal. A mechanical fall would be something causing someone to fall e.g. poorly fitting slippers rather than a medical cause such as a stroke or hypoglycaemia etc.

After receiving some data from other Trusts, I have had requests of further information from them. Just to clarify my request in case you need the same information as the others, I would like the amount of calls that were made to the ambulance service regarding a fall in the community and if possible, the total amount of all calls that year, just so I can work out a percentage once I have collated all my data.

Unfortunately we cannot provide the numbers of mechanical falls as quoted above, we can only provide the numbers of falls of less than 12 feet as determined by our call takers during triage of the 999 call and we are not aware of the cause of the fall.

I would like to stress that the problem nature is based on the information provided by the caller which may prove different to what our crews find when they reach the patient, therefore the detail given by the caller may not always be accurate.

Please see the table below which shows the number of calls for falls less than 12 feet and the number of calls received for the whole of the SECamb area. Please note that the above numbers exclude calls that were closed down as '08 – Information only' and '04 – Abandoned/hoax call'. This may therefore be slightly variant to the total number of emergency and urgent calls presented to SECamb's switchboard reported through the AQI's (KPI SQU03_1_1_2)"

Year	Calls relating to falls less than 12 feet	Total number of calls received
2015	69,405	781,819

I hope you find this information helpful.

If, for whatever reason you are unhappy with our response, you are entitled to pursue any dissatisfaction through South East Coast Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust's (SECAMB) Internal Review Procedure at:

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
40-42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW
Email:complaints@secamb.nhs.uk

Should you remain unhappy with the outcome of any such internal review , you may request a decision from the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me, quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Coordinator
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust