



South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS
Foundation Trust
Nexus House
Gatwick Road
Crawley
RH10 9BG

Date 26th March 2018

Email:

Email:foi@secamb.nhs.uk

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/18/03/01.

You requested the following information, please also see our response below:

Please can you provide me with statistics from your Trust regarding the total number of incidents attended by ambulance crews regarding elderly falls for the year 2017? This was clarified as patients over the age of 65 years

Prior to July 2017 the Trust's CAD system did not have a designated field for a call taker to collect patient ages. The new system was used fully across the Trust by early September.

In the data table below (split by month) October represents the first full month where the new CAD system was in use.

The following table shows the number of incidents which SECamb responded to in 2017 where a Problem Nature of 'Fall Injuries Unknown' or 'Fall Non-Injury' was selected and the patient was 65+ years of age.

Month	Responses
Jul-17	1590
Aug-17	2551
Sep-17	3482
Oct-17	3684
Nov-17	3817
Dec-17	3763

Please note that the problem nature is determined by the call taker, and not a diagnosis, what was found when a crew arrived on scene or what the patient was treated for if conveyed to hospital.

Please also be advised that this is the age of the patient that is provided by the caller and therefore may not be a true reflection of the patients actual age

Please can you also provide me with details regarding how many of these patients were suspected by clinicians on scene to have suffered a Neck of Femur hip fracture (NOF)? This was clarified as patients over the age of 65 years

A recent audit identified 111 patients with a suspected fractured neck of femur in a three-month window (April 2016 – June 2016) and all of these patients were over the age of 65. Therefore, we

would estimate that we attend approximately 444 incidents per year where a patient has a suspected fractured neck of femur.

Please note the data above was collected as part of our normal audit programme. To collect the same data for the time period you specified (2017) would exceed the timeframe set out in Section 12.

I hope you find this information of some assistance.

If for any reason you are dissatisfied with our response, kindly in the first instance contact Caroline Smart, Information Governance Manager via the following email address:

FOI@secamb.nhs.uk

Yours sincerely

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