

Definitions document

A number of data collections were implemented to support incident management. The collections were activated at short notice and the content of the collections has evolved as the incident has developed. The data collected is classified as management information. It has been collected on a daily basis with a tight turn round time. No revisions have been made to the dataset, where known errors have come to light trusts have made the appropriate correction in the following day's data. Any analysis of the data should be undertaken with this in mind.

Definition of confirmed COVID-19 patients:

- For all relevant data items: a confirmed COVID-19 patient is any patient admitted to the trust who has recently (ie in the last 14 days) tested positive for COVID-19 following a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test.
- Patients who have been diagnosed via X-ray and assessment rather than a positive test should be counted as suspected (and not confirmed) COVID-19 patients.
- Report a patient as a confirmed COVID-19 patient in the sitrep for as long as they are being treated as a COVID-19 patient – so either they are being treated for COVID-19 caused symptoms or the trust is still taking the precautions they would take with a COVID-19 positive patient.
- A patient who has previously but not recently – (ie not in the last 14 days) had a positive COVID-19 test and is admitted for non-COVID-19 related treatment should not be counted as a confirmed COVID-19 patient.

Beds information

- Mechanical Ventilation bed occupied with confirmed COVID-19 patients – includes any MV bed containing a confirmed COVID-19 patient
- Mechanical Ventilation bed occupied – includes any MV bed containing a patient whether the patient is confirmed COVID-19, suspected COVID-19 or Non-COVID-19.
- Occupied with confirmed COVID-19 patients – includes any bed containing a confirmed COVID-19 patient
- Occupied – include any bed containing a patient whether the patient is confirmed COVID-19, suspected COVID-19 or Non-COVID-19.
- Beds with mechanical ventilation available, as at 08:00 - Count any bed where all necessary equipment is available for mechanical ventilation. Include under mechanical ventilation intubated and ventilated.
- Total beds, as at 08:00 – count of all beds, as at 08:00. Include all adult, paediatric and neonatal beds for both elective and non-elective activity. Include trolleys where they are being used as beds – so if the trolleys have the same facilities and privacy as a bed would usually have, they should be included. Count overnight beds only.

Patient information

- Number of patients admitted with COVID-19 in last 24 hours

Count in this data item any person admitted in the last 24 hours who was known to be positive at admission under confirmed COVID-19 patients (with age split)

- Number of inpatients diagnosed with COVID-19 in last 24 hours

Count any patient diagnosed between midnight (00:00:00) to 23:59:59 on the day before reporting (with age split). Only include first positive tests within the admission – so a patient should not count on this line for a second time if they have a repeat test within the same admission which is also positive. Do not include patients who were diagnosed positive prior to admission to hospital (ie exclude patients where the result of the test was known at admission - patients who were tested prior to admission, but whose results were not known until after admission should be included), or patients who were discharged, or died, before the diagnosis was made.

Diagnosed in this context relates to the point at which the result is known to the trust.

- Estimated admissions

This is a derived figure, it adds those patients who are diagnosed with COVID-19 in hospital to those patients who were admitted to hospital with confirmed COVID-19. It represents a count of patients who, on a given day, have been added to the count of people in hospital with COVID-19.

A worked example – the 74 patients in hospital who received positive test results on 4 July are assumed to have been tested on 3 July and it is at the point of testing that they become a patient in hospital with COVID-19. These 74 patients are then added to the 72 patients admitted to hospital with confirmed COVID-19 on 3 July to create an Estimated Admission figure of 146 for 3 July.

- Number of COVID-19 discharges in the past 24 hours

Number of patents discharged in the last 24 hours, having been admitted with and/or treated for COVID-19 (with age split). Deaths are not included in this data item.

Staffing absences

- Total number of staff absent from work through sickness or self isolation?

Count any sickness absence - including long term sickness or self-isolation (absence due to being isolated, including isolated with no symptoms due to being a close contact of someone in isolation) – this figure should include all those included in the following COVID-19 related absences data item.

- Of these, the number of COVID-19 related absences of staff, either through sickness or self-isolation?

Count the number of COVID-19 related absences of staff, through sickness or self-isolation. Include anyone that falls into one of the COVID-19 categories on ESR – this figure should be a subset of the figure submitted above for all absences.

These data items are snapshots – please report the position on the day prior to submission. Do not include as self-isolating any staff who are still working, even if they are working from home due to self isolation. Count staff who are sick/self-isolating as sick/self-isolating even if they were not scheduled to work that day. Count NHS contracted staff only.