

Ref no: 171310718
From: Public
Date: 31/07/18
Subject: Children treated on adult wards

REQUEST

1. On how many occasions has a child (under the age of 18) been treated on an adult ward during each calendar year from 2010 to 2018 (Year to Date) inclusive. Please detail how long the child remained on the adult ward, what treatment they received and why they were treated on an adult ward (e.g. staffing shortages).
2. On how many occasions has an adult been treated on a children's ward during each calendar year from 2010 to 2018 (Year to Date) inclusive. Please detail how long the adult remained on the children's ward, what treatment they received and why they were treated on a children's ward (e.g. staffing shortages).

RESPONSE

1. On how many occasions has a child (under the age of 18) been treated on an adult ward during each calendar year from 2010 to 2018 (Year to Date) inclusive. Please detail how long the child remained on the adult ward, what treatment they received and why they were treated on an adult ward (e.g. staffing shortages).

Between 2010 and 2018 there were 1473 occasions where young adolescents aged between 16-17 were treated on adult wards. The decision for this was based entirely on the clinical judgement of the individual needs of the patients concerned where it was felt more appropriate to admit to an adult ward and was not due to paediatric bed capacity issues.

2. On how many occasions has an adult been treated on a children's ward during each calendar year from 2010 to 2018 (Year to Date) inclusive. Please detail how long the adult remained on the children's ward, what treatment they received and why they were treated on a children's ward (e.g. staffing shortages).

There were 19 adults (all aged 18) who were treated on children's wards between 2010 and 2018.

The clinical decision to admit to a children's ward as opposed to an adult ward was based purely on the needs and in the best interests of the young adolescent e.g. they had a learning disability or were known to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and therefore would be more appropriately cared for in a child centred environment.