

Ref no: 129240314  
From: Commercial  
Date: 24/03/14  
Subject: Catheters

## REQUEST

I wish to receive information regarding the accidental removal of urinary catheters (often referred to as Foley catheters) for patients in NHS inpatient care. These catheters are normally held in situ by a balloon. They are occasionally removed by the confused patient (often causing pain). Incidences of accidental urinary catheter removal should be recorded via incident reporting. I don't require any details of incidents, only the number of incidents reported. Please provide the most recent available (complete) 1 year of data.

Please can I make clarification relating to the requested information:

- 1) In defining catheter removal, please include any of catheter tugging, partial removal or complete removal.
- 2) In defining accidental removal, please include all incidents of patient-attempted catheter removal. This specifically includes, but is not limited to, confused or agitated patients attempting to remove catheters.
- 3) If you can report patient-attempted removal vs. all other incidents separately, please do so.

## RESPONSE

We are unable to provide the information you require as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved and possible re-identification using other information already published. This would breach the Trusts obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the Act. This is an absolute exemption and is not subject to the Public Interest Test.