

February 16, 2022
Shelly Hipson
Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0

Sent via e-mail to shellyhipson@gmail.com

Dear Shelly:

Re: Partial Access – OUR FILE# NSHA-2022-005

On January 17, 2022, Nova Scotia Health (NSH) received your request under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPOP Act)*.

We understand your application to be for a copy of the following:

Data, reports, records and breakdown on number of Incidental Hospitalizations Re COVID. By month since January 1, 2020: data on people who have been included in NS daily count of people in hospital and ICU with COVID-19 but were not hospitalized due to the virus or for the virus. Numbers for those who have gone to the hospital for something else and tested positive for COVID upon arrival or while in hospital but are not suffering from it (asymptomatic).

Please find a copy of the records located in response to your request. We have withheld personal information on under section 20(1) of the *FOIPOP Act* by changing numbers fewer than five to "<5".

Section 20(1) of the *FOIPOP Act* states *the head of a public body shall refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant if the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy.*

Section 20(3)(a) of the *FOIPOP Act* states *a disclosure of personal information is presumed to be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy if the personal information relates to a medical, dental, psychiatric, psychological or other health-care history, diagnosis, condition, treatment or evaluation.*

We do not have any data on whether an individual is asymptomatic. We are only able to provide data about the number of patients with COVID-19 who were admitted to non-COVID designated units.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

You have the right to seek a review with the Review Officer within 60 days of receiving this decision. Complete details of the process are outlined on the website of the Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner: <https://foipop.ns.ca/request-a-review>.



Sincerely,

Katie Smith
Freedom of Information Officer
Nova Scotia Health Authority
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Privacy Office; Legal Services
1-031 Centennial Building
1276 South Park Street
Halifax, NS B3H 2Y9
foipop@nshealth.ca