

Freedom of Information Request

- **how many cycles the Antrim Area hospital running as standard in their PCR tests?**

There are several assays and platforms in use in the NHSC Trust for molecular testing of SARS CoV2. The total number of PCR cycles for each of those assays is set by manufacturers and there is no deviation from that. Standard PCRs, which mostly employ Taqman chemistry, including SARS CoV2 assays are usually 40 cycles of PCR.

- **Is this the same number as the rest of the hospitals within the trust?**

Yes.

- **How many deaths were due to COVID- 19 alone and no other comorbidities which are listed on the death certificate? Specifically from February 2020 to present day (14th July 2021)**

Response: During this period – 6 people died who had COVID-19 mentioned on part I of the Medical Certificate on Cause of Death, and who had no underlying medical conditions

- **What is the average age of death from COVID-19 from February 2020 to present day (14th July 2021)?**

Response: The average age on death is 79 years.