

Right to Information Decision – Public Disclosure Log

Right to Information No.: RTI201516-081

Information Requested

- I The number of “code blacks” for the last three years in:
 - I.1 The Wilfred Lopes Centre
 - I.2 Royal Hobart Hospital’s PICU (Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit)
 - I.3 Launceston General Hospital’s Northside
 - I.4 Ashley Youth Detention Centre (AYDC)

Decision and Statement of Reasons

Facility	2013	2014	2015
Wilfred Lopes Centre ¹	12	169	97
RHH PICU	27	63	29
LGH Northside	23	25	62
AYDC ²	N/A	16	29

¹Please note the Wilfred Lopes Centre system does not distinguish between “false” and “realised” code blacks. This may not reflect the actual number of code blacks.

²Please note recording of this data began in August 2014. Care should be given when comparing this data to hospital data. AYDC is already a secure facility and a code black is used for “additional security”, not a general call for security as used in the hospital system.

Wilfred Lopes Centre data is significantly higher for 2014 and 2015. This is mainly due to a faulty duress system. It should be noted that whilst the current duress system is faulty and being replaced, the majority of issues relate to the calling of false code blacks. These issues do not result in any compromise to staff or patient safety and all code blacks are responded to in accordance with THS protocols.

Northside has seen a marked increase in code black data reported in 2015. This is largely due to staff training encouraging staff to make use of code blacks for assistance and a change in the reporting process.