

Right to Information – Public Disclosure Log RTI201516-009

[Initially released 6 October 2015. Updated 19 October 2015]

Application to: the Tasmanian Health Service

Information Disclosed:

Under the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards, there is a requirement for health service organisations to have an effective incident management and investigation system in place. The Electronic Monitoring Incident System (EIMS) was introduced in 2006 and utilised until April 2014 when it was replaced with the Safety Reporting and Learning System (SRLS).

Severity Assessment Code (SAC) ratings are used to gauge the severity of an incident or event.

SAC 4 is considered low risk, SAC 3 is considered medium risk, and SAC 2 is considered high risk.

The initial disclosure provided to the applicant on 6 October 2015, and subsequent preliminary updated data, have been reviewed and corrected (as per attached table). The Tasmanian Health Service discloses in the attached table the number of incidents, reported as attempted assaults, and actual assaults, by patients on staff and patients on patients at the Wilfred Lopes Centre, and the total number of incidents by each rating.

The data was extracted from the EIMS data (2010 to March 2014) and SRLS from April 2014 to September 2015.

It is important to note the SRLS is a system that is much more user friendly and as such has contributed to ease of reporting for staff.

This, coupled with increased education provided to staff with regard to the importance of reporting in general as part of a safety culture has likely contributed to the increase in reported incidents from April 2014.

It is also important to note that the SAC rating within EIMS was assigned by the staff member logging the event.

Within SRLS the SAC rating is assigned by the system from the information provided in the pro forma. The rating is therefore deemed to be a more objective assessment of the relative risk. This difference cautions against direct comparisons between the two systems.

Safety Event Descriptor / Year /SAC Rating	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014 (Jan-Mar) EIMS		2014 (Apr – Dec) SRLS		2015 (Jan – Sept) SRLS		
	SAC 3	SAC 4	SAC 3	SAC 4	SAC 3	SAC 4	SAC 3	SAC 4	SAC 3	SAC 4	SAC 3	SAC 4	SAC 2	SAC 3	SAC 4
Patient Contact Assault to Staff	4	1	2	9	2	0	0	2	1	3	2	0	1	3	2
Patient Attempt Assault to Staff	2	1	2	2	0	0	1	2	1	3	3	7	0	2	5
Patient Contact Assault to Patient	2	1	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Patient Attempt Assault to Patient	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Totals for each year	2010 = 11		2011 = 19		2012 = 6		2013 = 5		Jan to Mar 2014 = 8		Apr to Dec 2014 =14*		Jan to Sept 2015 = 15		

*post implementation of SRLS.