

APPROVED

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY K.G. PAMPLIN OF ST. SAVIOUR
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 12th MARCH 2019**

Question

Can the Minister provide the number of self-harm and suicide attempts (a) which occurred at the General Hospital or another medical facility, such as Orchard House, and (b) which were recorded on admission to the Hospital or another facility, in each year since 2011, broken down, if possible, by age, gender, and whether it was a repeat incident?

Answer

a) Incidents of self-harm (SH) and attempted suicide are recorded in the Datix incident reporting system.

Incidents reported on Datix: 2011-2018**Deliberate Self-Harm**

Location	SH Total	Male	Female	
JGH	14	0	9	The 14 episodes of SH were carried out by 9 patients
Clinique Pinel	6	1	4	
Orchard House	73	12	21	The 73 episodes of SH were carried out by 33 patients. 1 patient had 18 episodes of SH *
Total	93			

Self-Harm by Year

Year	Number
2011	5
2012	9
2013	9
2014	6
2015	16
2016	9
2017	5
2018	34 *
Total	93

* 1 patient had 18 episodes of deliberate self-harm

Level of harm to patients who self-harmed

Harm to patient	Number
No Harm	14
Low Harm	76
Moderate Harm	3
Severe Harm	0
Death	0
Total	93

Attempted Self-Harm

There were 12 patients captured on Datix who attempted to self-harm but did not do so as staff were present.

Attempted Suicide

Location	Attempted Suicide	Male	Female	
JGH	10			This involved 10 attempts by 8 patients
Clinique Pinel	10	2	5	This involved 10 attempts by 7 patients
Orchard House	20	5	11	This involved 20 attempts by 16 patients
Total	40			

Level of Harm that came to Patients that Attempted Suicide

Harm to patient	Number
No Harm	11
Low Harm	22
Moderate Harm	4
Severe Harm	1
Death	2
Total	40

Attempted suicide by year

Year	Number
2011	8
2012	3
2013	3
2014	5
2015	4
2016	6
2017	1
2018	10
Total	40

In the majority of cases of attempted suicide, no harm or very low harm came to the patient as staff were present and the patient was under observation at the time of the incident. The patients in the category of very low harm are categorised as such as they required additional observation; they did not come to any physical harm.

It is very difficult to say whether the apparent self-harm episode was an attempt at suicide or not. The incident is reported at the point of it occurring and it is subjective at this point as to whether it was an actual intended suicide attempt.

b) The first full year of available data is from 2012. The table below shows attendances at the Emergency Department under the 'Attempted Suicide' and 'Deliberate Self-Harm' diagnosis categories from 2012 to 2018.

Year	Attempted Suicide	DSH
2012	42	98
2013	33	154
2014	30	110
2015	36	89
2016	27	132
2017	34	99
2018	39	110

The following table gives a breakdown of the above by gender:

Diagnosis Category	Female	Male	Not Specified
Attempted Suicide	134	107	0
Deliberate Self-Harm	439	350	3

The table below shows a breakdown by age:

Diagnosis Category	<18 years	18-64 years	65 years and over
Attempted Suicide	28	201	12
Deliberate Self-Harm	179	601	12

Of the 241 attempted suicides attendances in the period, 27 patients (11%) have attended more than once.

Of the 792 deliberate self-harm attendances, 99 patients (12.5%) have attended more than once.