

Subject: Request for clarification of classification of COVID-19 in death statistics

FOI reference: 202100138016

Date received: 13 January 2021

Date responded: 18 January 2021

Information requested:

“Data table 5 (Deaths in Scotland by month of registration and Cause of Death 2000-2020) has 4 broad categories for ‘Cause of Death’ (link below). Is Covid19 categorised under ‘Diseases of the Respiratory System’ in these statistics?”

NRS Response:

The table referred to does include deaths involving Covid-19. Deaths where Covid-19 was the underlying cause of death will be included in the ‘other causes’ category in this table, not under the ‘Disease of the respiratory system’ category. More information on how deaths are classified into groups can be found here:

<https://icd.who.int/browse10/2019/en>