

2.02 Sarcoidosis Prevalence Western Health & Social Care Trust

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Sarcoidosis is a multi-systemic condition of uncertain aetiology, characterised by granulomatous inflammation. It predominantly affects the lungs but can affect any organ.

On a global scale it is recognised that there are differences in prevalence of sarcoidosis across geographic regions. The British Lung Foundation study [Respiratory health of the nation] demonstrated a consistently higher prevalence of sarcoidosis in Northern Ireland in comparison with other regions of the UK. We aimed to identify if there was a difference in the prevalence of sarcoidosis in the Western Trust [Southern Sector] in comparison to the rest of Northern Ireland and the UK. We also aimed to identify any clusters of sarcoidosis in local population areas.

We collected data by identifying living patients who had been coded with a diagnosis of Sarcoidosis and seen in secondary care over the previous 10 years. There were 207 cases identified, demonstrating a prevalence of 157 cases per 100,000 population. We also divided patients into postcode areas and estimated the point prevalence in each area. Clusters of higher prevalence were identified at BT75, BT92 and BT94 . There is a need for further prevalence studies as this could identify an under resourced health care need within specific trust areas.

Conflict of Interest: None to declare