

David T. C. Davies, MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

February 2015

Dear Mr Davies,

As Director General for the Office for National Statistics, I have been asked to reply to your recent Parliamentary Question asking the Secretary of State for Health how many teenage girls and women died in each of the last five years from toxic shock syndrome caused by tampon use. (224770)

Table 1 provides the number of teenage girls (aged between 13 and 19 years) and women (aged over 20 years) where toxic shock syndrome was the underlying cause of death, England and Wales, deaths registered in each year from 2009 to 2013 (the latest year available).

Table 1. Number of teenage girls and women where toxic shock syndrome was the underlying cause of death, England and Wales, deaths registered in each year from 2009 to 2013^{1,2,3,4}

Year	Teenage girls (aged 13-19)	Women (aged 20 and over)
2009	0	3
2010	1	5
2011	0	0
2012	0	1
2013	1	2

1 Cause of death was defined using the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10) code A48.3 (Toxic shock syndrome). Deaths were included where toxic shock syndrome was coded as the underlying cause on the death certificate.

2 Teenage girls includes those aged 13 to 19, woman includes those aged 20 and over.

3 Figures for include deaths of non-residents.

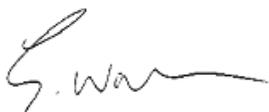
4 Figures are for deaths registered, rather than deaths occurring in each calendar.

Information on the cause of the toxic shock syndrome may sometimes be recorded on a death certificate although not always and so it is not possible to provide an accurate figure for the number of teenage girls and women who have died from toxic shock syndrome specifically caused by tampon use using information collected at death registration.

The number of deaths registered in England and Wales each year by sex, age and cause are published annually on the ONS website at:

www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/vsob1/mortality-statistics--deaths-registered-in-england-and-wales--series-dr-/index.html

Yours sincerely,



Glen Watson
Director General for ONS