

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.9554.22
<b>Subject:</b>	Where Pembrokeshire patients are being treated
<b>Date of Request:</b>	19 July 2022

**Requested:**

How many patients in total are being treated in other hospital areas – whom would have previously been treated at Withybush Hospital? – What is the breakdown of illnesses and treatments now being given elsewhere? Why are you doing this?

**Clarification**

- The timescale of preference would be July 2020 to July 2022 – 2 years. If this is not possible then I would really like a full 12 month period
- How many people are having to travel further than their nearest general hospital – in our case Withybush – for treatment which should be available at their nearest general hospital.

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) does not hold the information exactly as requested, as there are a number of reasons why a patient could be required to attend another hospital within the UHB's area for treatment; such as requiring use of a specific theatre for surgery or needing to be seen by a named clinician.

Within the last two years, as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the UHB has had to develop an operational recovery plan, which encompasses the planned method to deliver outpatient, emergency and elective treatments whilst considering capacity and resources available across each of the UHB's sites. Some services including the Paediatric Ambulatory Care Unit and inpatient Trauma and Orthopaedic surgeries have been temporarily removed from Withybush General Hospital (WGH).

During the period 1 July 2020 to 31 July 2022, twenty thousand and ninety (20,090) patients who had a Pembrokeshire postcode recorded as their home address within the Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS) were treated at a hospital other than WGH. The UHB is unable to confirm the reason for the treatment being elsewhere, as this is not recorded. Of those, it is important to note that six thousand six hundred and eighty-eight (6,688) of these cases are coded as emergency related, and four thousand and sixty-three (4,063) were maternity cases which required specialist obstetric attention at either Glangwili General Hospital or Bronglais General Hospital.