

Reference:	FOI.16990.25
Subject:	Amputation surgeries
Date of Request:	4 April 2025

Requested:

1. How many amputation surgeries have been performed at your health board since 2017?
2. How many upper limb amputation surgeries have been performed at your health board since 2017?
3. How many lower limb amputation surgeries have been performed at your health board since 2017?
4. Please provide a breakdown of the primary causes for amputation surgeries at your health board since 2017.
5. How many active amputation cases were managed by your health board between 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024? Please provide the figure broken down by gender and the following age groups:
 - a. Baby (up to 1 year)
 - b. Toddler (1 to 3 years)
 - c. Child (4 to 12 years)
 - d. Teenager (13 to 19 years)
 - e. Young people (20 to 24 years)
 - f. Adult (25 to 64 years)
 - g. Older people (65 and over)

Clarified:

Question 5 - I am seeking the number of outpatient amputee patients who were actively attending clinics, follow-up appointments and receiving care during 2024.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms three hundred and forty-seven (347) amputation surgeries were performed, during the period 1 January 2017 to 31 March 2025.
2. The UHB confirms forty-nine (49) upper limb amputation surgeries were performed, during the period 1 January 2017 to 31 March 2025.
3. The UHB confirms two hundred and seventy-five (275) lower limb amputation surgeries were performed, during the period 1 January 2017 to 31 March 2025.
4. The UHB provides, within the table overleaf, a list of all the primary diagnoses for amputation surgeries performed, during the period 1 January 2017 to 31 March 2025. Please note: This data is by Primary Diagnosis which may not be the same as the primary cause for the amputation surgery.

Primary Diagnosis
Sepsis, unspecified
Malignant neoplasm: Glans penis
Malignant neoplasm: Body of penis
Leiomyoma of uterus, unspecified
Type 1 diabetes mellitus (With peripheral circulatory complications)
Type 1 diabetes mellitus (With other specified complications)
Type 2 diabetes mellitus (With neurological complications)
Type 2 diabetes mellitus (With peripheral circulatory complications)
Lesion of plantar nerve
Other mononeuropathies of lower limb
Atherosclerosis of arteries of extremities (with gangrene)
Peripheral vascular disease, unspecified
Embolism and thrombosis of arteries of lower extremities
Peripheral angiopathy in diseases classified elsewhere
Melaena
Cellulitis of finger and toe
Local infection of skin and subcutaneous tissue, unspecified
Corns and callosities
Stage IV decubitus ulcer
Ulcer of lower limb, not elsewhere classified
Chronic ulcer of skin, not elsewhere classified
Disorder of skin and subcutaneous tissue, unspecified
Pyogenic arthritis, unspecified (Ankle and foot)
Idiopathic gout (Hand)
Idiopathic gout (Ankle and foot)
Arthritis, unspecified (Ankle and foot)
Arthrosis, unspecified (Ankle and foot)
Deformity of finger(s)
Hallux valgus (acquired)
Other hammer toe(s) (acquired)
Other deformities of toe(s) (acquired)
Acquired deformity of toe(s), unspecified
Flexion deformity (Hand)
Flexion deformity (Ankle and foot)
Acquired clawhand, clubhand, clawfoot and clubfoot (Hand)
Acquired clawhand, clubhand, clawfoot and clubfoot (Ankle and foot)
Other instability of joint (Hand)
Pain in joint (Hand)
Pain in joint (Ankle and foot)
Stiffness of joint, not elsewhere classified (Ankle and foot)
Ischaemic infarction of muscle (Hand)
Ischaemic infarction of muscle (Ankle and foot)
Ganglion
Palmar fascial fibromatosis [Dupuytren]
Necrotizing fasciitis (Pelvic region and thigh)
Necrotizing fasciitis (Lower leg)
Necrotizing fasciitis (Ankle and foot)
Pain in limb (Lower leg)

Pain in limb (Ankle and foot)
Other acute osteomyelitis (Hand)
Other acute osteomyelitis (Ankle and foot)
Other chronic osteomyelitis (Lower leg)
Other chronic osteomyelitis (Ankle and foot)
Other osteomyelitis (Ankle and foot)
Osteomyelitis, unspecified
Osteomyelitis, unspecified (Hand)
Osteomyelitis, unspecified (Ankle and foot)
Osteonecrosis, unspecified (Ankle and foot)
Other specified disorders of bone (Ankle and foot)
Fracture of bone following insertion of orthopaedic implant, joint prosthesis, or bone plate
Acute renal failure, unspecified
Cystocele
Incomplete uterovaginal prolapse
Complete uterovaginal prolapse
Uterovaginal prolapse, unspecified
Rectocele
Excessive and frequent menstruation with regular cycle
Other congenital deformities of feet
Congenital deformity of feet, unspecified
Accessory finger(s)
Accessory thumb(s)
Other congenital malformations of lower limb(s), including pelvic girdle
Gangrene, not elsewhere classified
Other and unspecified abdominal pain
Open wound of finger(s) without damage to nail
Open wound of finger(s) with damage to nail
Fracture of other finger (open)
Dislocation of finger
Crushing injury of thumb and other finger(s)
Crushing injury of other and unspecified parts of wrist and hand
Traumatic amputation of other single finger (complete)(partial)
Unspecified injury of wrist and hand
Fracture of shaft of femur (closed)
Fractures of other parts of lower leg (closed)
Open wound of toe(s) with damage to nail
Fracture of great toe (closed)
Fracture of other toe (closed)
Fracture of other toe (open)
Crushing injury of toe(s)
Traumatic amputation of one toe
Traumatic amputation of two or more toes
Fractures involving multiple regions of one lower limb (closed)
Burn of unspecified degree of wrist and hand
Post-traumatic wound infection, not elsewhere classified
Infection following a procedure, not elsewhere classified
Infection and inflammatory reaction due to internal joint prosthesis

Infection and inflammatory reaction due to other internal orthopaedic prosthetic devices, implants and grafts

Neuroma of amputation stump

Infection of amputation stump

5. The UHB is unable confirm whether the outpatient activity it holds for patients who have undergone an amputation was directly related to the amputation as this information is not recorded. Additionally, the UHB is unable to provide you with the exact number of patients who have undergone an amputation that attended outpatient clinics that it has identified, due to the low numbers of cases (less than 5), as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the FoIA. This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)/UK General Data Protection Regulations, as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles of the UK GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore, there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the DPA and UK GDPR define personal data as data that relates to a living individual who can be identified solely from that data or from that data and other information, which is in the possession of the data controller.