

Reference:	FOI.10732.23
Subject:	Anterior hip replacements
Date of Request:	20 January 2023

Requested:

1. How many anterior hip replacement procedures have been undertaken in your trust since 2016 to date and can this be broken down by the Trust and can this be broken down year by year?
2. Are your trust offering anterior hip replacements?
3. Have any patients had an anterior hip replacement procedure undertaken in an English hospital under a Wales NHS referral since 2016, if so please can you provide the year and the English and Welsh Trust details.

Clarification

The most obvious difference between anterior and posterior hip replacement surgeries is the location of the incisions:

Anterior hip replacement surgery uses an incision at the front of the hip. This incision typically starts at the top of the pelvic bone.

Posterior hip replacement surgery uses a curved incision on the side and back of the hip. The incision curves just behind the greater trochanter, the knobby bit of bone that sticks out at the side from the top of the femur (thigh bone).

Only surgeons who have had training can perform the anterior procedure.

I am looking for the numbers of the modified Hardinge anterolateral approach.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of the information requested, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate limit” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

The UHB does not code the specific approach used for hip replacement surgery. Therefore, in order to provide you with the number of anterior hip replacement procedures, for questions 1 and 3, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all records of patients that underwent hip replacement surgery, to identify the information that fulfils your request, as this is not recorded centrally.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), which provides an exemption from a public authority’s obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

However, under Section 16 of the FoIA, we are required as a public authority, to provide advice and assistance so far as it is reasonable, to individuals who have made a request under the FoIA. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds.

1. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of hip replacement surgeries undertaken, as recorded on the UHB's Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS), during the calendar years 2016 to 2023.

Calendar year	Number
2016	816
2017	718
2018	750
2019	630
2020	184
2021	234
2022	284

2. The UHB confirms that it does offer anterior hip replacements.
3. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of hip replacement surgeries undertaken in an English hospital under an NHS Wales referral, during the calendar years 2016 to 2023.

Calendar year	Number	NHS England provider
2016	0	Not applicable
2017	1	Robert Jones and Angus Hunt Hospital, Oswestry
2018	0	Not applicable
2019	1	Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Birmingham
2020	0	Not applicable
2021	1	Gloucestershire NHS Hospital, Gloucester
2022	1	Robert Jones and Angus Hunt Hospital, Oswestry