

Reference:	FOI.1607.19
Subject:	Bowel preparation for colonoscopy
Date of Request:	26 September 2019

Requested

I would like to make a request for some information relating to bowel preparation for colonoscopy if that is possible. All of the questions refer to colonoscopy procedures performed between 1st January 2018 and 1st January 2019. Please let me know if any of the questions do not appear clear, I am more than happy to further clarify.

1. What is the first line bowel preparation laxative that is offered to patients undergoing colonoscopy?
2. Do you offer any alternative bowel preparation laxatives for patients undergoing colonoscopy?
3. How many patients received each bowel preparation laxative between 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019?
4. What were the number of patients receiving each bowel preparation laxative who had inadequate bowel preparation between 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019?
5. Are patients undergoing colonoscopy advised to take the bowel preparation at a single time or split over two different times?
6. During the period of 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019, what times were patients advised to consume the bowel preparation for a morning colonoscopy appointment?
7. During the period of 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019, what times were patients advised to consume the bowel preparation for an afternoon colonoscopy appointment?
8. During the period of 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019, what times were patients advised to consume the bowel preparation for an evening colonoscopy appointment?
9. Are patient's advised to consume a particular diet prior to their colonoscopy? If so what diet are they advised to consume? How many days are they advised to consume it for?
10. Do any of your patients attend a specific pre assessment clinic after they are referred for colonoscopy, but before they attend on the day of their endoscopy to receive more detailed endoscopy information? What is the criteria for referral to this pre assessment clinic?
11. How many patients are seen in this pre assessment clinic between 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019?
12. How many colonoscopies did you perform in the last year (1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019)
13. During the period of 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019:
 - How many patients were documented as having excellent bowel preparation?

- What was the polyp detection rate in patient with excellent bowel preparation?
- How many patients were documented as having good bowel preparation?
- What was the polyp detection rate in patient with good bowel preparation?
- How many patients were documented as having fair bowel preparation?
- What was the polyp detection rate in patient with fair bowel preparation?
- How many patients were documented as having inadequate bowel preparation?
- What was the polyp detection rate in patient with inadequate bowel preparation?

14. How many patients had a morning appointment during the period of 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019?

15. How many patients who had a morning appointment during the period of 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019 had inadequate bowel prep?

16. How many patients had an afternoon appointment during the period of 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019?

17. How many patients who had an afternoon appointment during the period of 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019 had inadequate bowel prep?

18. How many patients had an evening appointment during the period of 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019?

19. How many patients who had an evening appointment during the period of 1st January 2018 - 1st January 2019 had inadequate bowel prep?

20. If a patient has a repeat colonoscopy due to inadequate bowel preparation, do you have a specific bowel preparation regime for those patients? If so what is it?

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the information requested, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate level”, as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate level” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or (2 ½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

In order to provide you with this information, the UHB would need to manually scrutinise all colonoscopy patient records to identify any information that fulfils your request. The number of colonoscopy procedures undertaken for the calendar year 2018 was 1,148; therefore, conducting the search would far exceed the ‘appropriate level’, costing the UHB the following:

1,148 @ 15 minutes per patient record = 287 hours

287 hours @ £25 per hours = £7,175.00

Therefore, the UHB is applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI), which provides an exemption from a public authority's obligation to comply with a request for information.

Under section 16 of the FOI, the UHB has an obligation to provide advice and assistance. The UHB has answered a similar Freedom of Information request, relating to the use of bowel cleansers and how many of each brand were dispensed. FOI/1588/19, which provides similar information to some of the information requested is published on our disclosure log.

This information is therefore exempt under Section 21 of the FOI, which states that information is exempt if it is readily accessible within the public domain. The UHB's disclosure log can be accessed via the link below:

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/862/page/71569>