

Reference:	FOI.14185.24
Subject:	Epilepsy
Date of Request:	10 April 2024

Requested:

1. Number of patients who have a diagnosis of epilepsy and under the care of a General Physician and who is not under neurological services in Pembrokeshire, Carmarthen and Aberystwyth.
2. Number of patients waiting for their first seizure clinics in neurology under the same regions please.

Response:

Unfortunately, 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.

In order to provide the data requested for paediatric patients, the UHB would need to manually scrutinise patient and service records to identify any information that fulfils your request.

Therefore, the UHB is applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (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 below the information identified in respect of adult patients that fulfils your request.

1. The UHB does not hold the information exactly as requested. However, within Primary Care, there are three thousand, two hundred and eighty-two (3,282) people aged eighteen (18) years and over registered with a GP in the requested counties, who have a diagnosis of epilepsy; this is 0.9% of the population registered with a GP. Additionally, there are five hundred and fifty-seven (557) patients, aged eighteen (18) years and over registered with the UHB’s Epilepsy Specialist Nurses.
2. The UHB confirms that it currently has two hundred and forty-three (243) patients on its first seizure waiting list.