

Reference:	FOI.20840.26
Subject:	Ethics and device procurement
Date of Request:	25 June 2026

Requested:

1. Please provide the date when your medical device (as defined by MHRA, i.e. also including relevant software) procurement policy (or policies, if you e.g. have a separate one for medical software) was/were last updated.
2. Please state whether the policy (mentioned in point 1 above) requires that a clinical ethicist should be consulted during purchase decisions (if a clinical ethicist is only needs to be consulted under certain conditions, please list these).
A clinical ethicists is defined as a member of your clinical ethics committee (under whatever name it operates in your organisation, but this does not include research ethics committees) or an academic with a dedicated post in ethics or a permanent staff members explicitly employed to provide clinical ethics support.
3. If the policy requires ethical issues to be considered during such devise purchase decisions, but not via input of a clinical ethicist as defined above, please state the mechanisms in place for fulfilling that requirement.
4. Please state whether you had clinical ethicist (as defined above) involvement in the purchase of any clinical artificial intelligence applications irrespective of whether this is mandated by your policy.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms that its Medical Devices Policy was last updated on 12 March 2025. A copy has been provided at Attachment 1.
2. & 3. The Medical Devices Policy does not require consultation with a clinical ethicist during medical device purchasing decisions. Please see Attachment 1.
4. Not applicable. The UHB has not purchased any clinical Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications.

However, the Procurement Team in NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership (NWSSP) procure systems on an All-Wales basis. We therefore recommend that you contact the Freedom of Information team in NWSSP, who may be able to assist you further. Contact details are as follows:

Email shared.services@wales.nhs.uk or alternatively in writing to: NWSSP, Information Governance Manager, 4-5 Charnwood Court, Heol Billingsley, Parc Nantgarw, Cardiff, CF15 7QZ.