

Reference:	FOI.12426.23
Subject:	Hysteroscopy pathways
Date of Request:	12 August 2023

Requested:

1. Does your Trust currently have both an inpatient (day-case) pathway and an outpatient pathway for hysteroscopy?
2. Currently, roughly what percentage of your Trust's hysteroscopies are done with an anaesthetist:
 - a. Diagnostic
 - b. operative (e.g. polypectomy, myomectomy, endometrial ablation)?
3. What is the current approximate waiting time in weeks for a patient who asks for a general anaesthetic, spinal anaesthetic or IV sedation with analgesia for hysteroscopy
 - a. under the 2 week wait as an urgent referral for suspected cancer?
 - b. not under the 2 week wait?
4. Has your Trust adopted, or is your Trust adopting the NHS Getting It Right First Time (Maternity & Gynaecology Report) targets of
 - a. 90% diagnostic hysteroscopies to be done in outpatients?
 - b. 50% operative hysteroscopies to be done in outpatients
5. May I have a copy of the full range of pain scores obtained by your Trust in the BSGE 2019 outpatient hysteroscopy benchmarking survey?
6. Is entonox or pentrox routinely available to all your outpatient hysteroscopy patients?
7. Are local anaesthetic paracervical blocks routinely available in outpatients?
8. Please may I see any audits of hysteroscopic procedures during the last 5 years?
9. Are pain scores taken at all your outpatient hysteroscopy clinics?
10. Does your Trust have a Procedural Sedation Analgesia clinic for 'minor gynae' including hysteroscopy?

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms that it does have hysteroscopy pathways for inpatients and outpatients.
- 2a. The UHB confirms that 10% of its diagnostic hysteroscopies are carried out with an anaesthetist.
- 2b. The UHB confirms that 10% of its outpatient and 90% of its inpatient operative hysteroscopies are carried out with an anaesthetist.
- 3a. The UHB confirms that it is currently on target, under two (2) weeks' wait, for an Urgent Suspected Cancer (USC) referral for a hysteroscopy with either anaesthetic, spinal anaesthetic or intravenous sedation with analgesia.

- 3b. The UHB confirms that routine Priority 3 patient referrals are currently waiting fifteen (15) months for a hysteroscopy with either anaesthetic, spinal anaesthetic or intravenous sedation with analgesia.
- 4a. The UHB confirms that has adopted the NHS Getting It Right First Time (Maternity & Gynaecology Report) target of 90% of diagnostic hysteroscopies to be done in outpatients and are within the set margins.
- 4b. The UHB confirms that it has not yet adopted the NHS Getting It Right First Time (Maternity & Gynaecology Report) target of 50% of operative hysteroscopies. However, the UHB does have plans and investment in place to improve to this level.
5. The UHB does not hold this information, as it did not participate in the survey.
6. The UHB confirms that entonox or pentrox is routinely available to all outpatient hysteroscopy patients.
7. The UHB confirms that local anaesthetic paracervical blocks are routinely available in outpatients.
8. The UHB does not hold the information requested. However, there are plans in place to undertake and complete audits relating to hysteroscopy in the coming months.
9. The UHB confirms that it does not undertake pain scores at its outpatient hysteroscopy clinics.
10. The UHB confirms that it does have an inpatient procedural sedation analgesia clinic for 'minor gynae', that includes hysteroscopies.