

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.17656.25
<b>Subject:</b>	Implant cost data for Trauma and Orthopaedic (T&O) operation costs
<b>Date of Request:</b>	25 June 2025

**Requested:**

As one of the 169 hospitals/trusts listed in the National Hip Fracture Database 2024, we would be grateful if you could treat this as a Freedom of Information request and provide the following details for a 12-month period for Bronglais General Hospital.

1. Dynamic Hip Screw (DHS)

Procedure: Internal fixation of hip fractures using a sliding hip screw system (commonly extracapsular, but may include other fracture types, intracapsular).

- a. What is the most commonly used implant for this procedure at your hospital?
- b. Approximately how many of these procedures were performed in a 12-month period?
- c. What is the average implant cost per patient during that period?

2. Short Intramedullary Femoral Nail

Procedure: Internal fixation of femoral fractures using a short intramedullary nail (e.g. for unstable intertrochanteric or subtrochanteric fractures).

- a. What is the most commonly used implant for this procedure?
- b. Approximately how many of these procedures were performed in a 12-month period?
- c. What is the average implant cost per patient during that period?

3. Distal Radius ORIF (Plate and Screws)

Procedure: Open reduction and internal fixation of distal radius fractures.

- a. What is the most commonly used plate implant for this procedure?
- b. Approximately how many of these procedures were performed in a 12-month period?
- c. What is the average implant cost per patient during that period?

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) has recently received a similar Freedom of Information request, FOI/17643/25, relating to implant cost data for T&O operations, which is currently being processed and will be published on our disclosure log. This information is therefore exempt under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), which states that information is exempt if it is intended that the information held by the public authority will be published at a future date.

This exemption is qualified and therefore, if information falls within Section 22, public authorities must apply a public interest test. The information can only be withheld if the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

The UHB has therefore considered the following:

**In favour of disclosure:** There is a public interest in the UHB being open and transparent. The UHB has a duty to process and fulfil requests for information within the statutory timeframe, in accordance with the FoIA. It is within everyone's interests that requested information is shared and

made available to the wider public as soon as possible, demonstrating the UHB's commitment to adhere to the FoIA.

**Against Disclosure:** A similar request for information has also been received (FOI.17643.25), the information for which is currently being collated, in preparation for a final response to be issued and subsequently published on our Disclosure log. Therefore, the information is not yet ready for distribution or publication. FOI.17643.25 has a statutory deadline of 23 July 2025 and will be published on our Disclosure log shortly after this date.

**Decision:** The UHB considers that the public interest in withholding the requested information at this time, is greater than the interest in disclosing it. The UHB is already collating the requested information in readiness for disclosure and whilst operating in accordance with the FoIA, has a history of maintaining an up-to-date disclosure log. The UHB can therefore evidence its intention to publish FOI.17643.25 as at the time of receipt. The UHB does not have the information ready to disclose or publish as at the time of the request and believes it is reasonable to apply an exemption under Section 22 of the FoIA. Internal governance processes are in place to ensure the UHB fulfils its statutory duty under the FoIA, including publishing requests for information on its website for the wider public to view. The UHB has therefore taken the decision to apply a Section 22 exemption.

The UHB intends to publish a copy of the finalised response, FOI.17643.25, on its disclosure in due course. The disclosure log can be accessed via the link provided below:

[Disclosure Log - Hywel Dda University Health Board](#)