

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.14083.24
<b>Subject:</b>	MRI equipment
<b>Date of Request:</b>	21 March 2024

**Requested:**

I would like to submit the following FOI request. This is in relation to MRI equipment provision within your trust/health board:-

- FOI MRI Questions - FUJIFILM Healthcare UK Ltd

Please can you provide responses to the following questions in regard to your MRI systems used within the Trust.

1. How many MRI Scanners do you currently have in the trust/health board?
2. How many MRI scans are requested each year?
3. How many MRI scans are done in a year?
4. Which make and model of MRI Scanner do you have installed across the trust/health board?
5. What is your 'Do not attend' rate?
6. What is your failed MRI scan rate i.e. scan abandoned midway during an investigation?
7. What percentage of your failed and DNA rates are due to claustrophobia?
8. What is the number of patients per month referred to an open MRI scanner?
9. The cost per patient to refer to an open MRI scanner (tariff you're charged).
10. What was the cited reason as to why the patient was referred to an open scanner?
11. What is your Projected MRI demand within the trust/health board (% increase)?

**Clarification**

Clarification was sought around the date range required for the request for information. The following clarification was received:

In regards to the date/time ranges for our request, please see as follows:-

March 2019 to March 2020

January 2022 - March 2024

**Response:**

**Section 12**

The 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 Act 2000 and the 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.

The information requested for questions 6 and 7 is not collated and recorded centrally. Therefore, in order to provide you with the information requested, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all radiology patient records to identify any information that may fulfil your request.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (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, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds below.

#### **Section 40**

The UHB is withholding the requested information for questions 8 and 10. The UHB is unable to provide you with the exact number of patients that have been referred to an open MRI scanner and the reasons why the patients were referred for an open MRI scan, due to the low numbers of cases (less than 5), as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed.

The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the FoIA. This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)/UK General Data Protection Regulations, as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles of the UK GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the DPA and UK GDPR define personal data as data that relates to a living individual who can be identified solely from that data or from that data and other information, which is in the possession of the data controller.

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) has four (4) MRI scanners.
2. The UHB provides within the table below the number of MRI scans requested during the time period requested.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Requested</b>
March 2019 - March 2020	22,046
January 2022 - March 2024	56,357

3. The UHB provides within the table below the number of MRI scans undertaken during the time period requested.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Undertaken</b>
March 2019 - March 2020	20,914
January 2022 - March 2024	55,114

4. The UHB provides within the table below the make and model of each MRI scanning machine installed across the UHB.

Quantity	Make	Model
1	GE	MR450 Discovery 1.5T
1	Siemens	Aera 1.5T,
2	Siemens	Sola 1.5 T

5. The UHB provides within the table below the percentage rate of MRI scans that were not attended during the time period requested.

Year	Did Not Attend
March 2019 - March 2020	4%
January 2022 - March 2024	5%

6. &7. The UHB has applied a section 12 exemption to this request for information.

8. The UHB has applied a section 40 to this request for information.

9. The UHB can advise that the average cost per patient for a private provider MRI scan is £685.

10. The UHB has applied a section 40 to this request for information.

11. The UHB's projected increase in MRI demand is 11%. This projected increase is based on the 2023 - 2024 patient data.