

Reference:	FOI.16309.25
Subject:	Ophthalmology and Sexual Health data
Date of Request:	8 January 2025

Requested:

1. Spending on Ophthalmology Services in the Private Sector:
 - a. Could you provide a breakdown of the expenditure on ophthalmology services referred to the private sector over the past five years?
 - b. What is the total number of individual cases referred to the private sector during this period?
 - c. What is the average cost per case for these referrals?

2. Spending on NHS Ophthalmology Services
 - a. Could you provide a breakdown of the expenditure on ophthalmology services within the NHS over the past five years?
 - b. What is the total number of individual treated within your Ophthalmology Department?
 - c. What is the average cost per treatment for each individual?

3. Data on sexually transmitted infections and diseases, categorized by the previous three years
 - a. The number of STI and/or STD tests performed in GP offices, infirmaries, and NHS Wales Sexual Health Clinics.
 - b. The quantity of inconclusive, negative, and positive test results reported by test type in NHS Wales Sexual Health Clinics, Infirmaries, and General Practitioners.
 - c. The quantity of patients re-infected by STI/STD type.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides within the tables below, a breakdown of Ophthalmology service spend outsourced to the private sector, by case/procedure, the number of cases and the average cost per case, during the 2019/20 to 2023/24 financial years.

2019/20			
Case/procedure	a. Spend	b. Number	c. Average cost
Inpatients	£3,223.00	3	£1,074.33
Day cases	£1,920,159.00	1,679	£1,143.63
Outpatient Consultation	£69,435.00	370	£187.66
Outpatient Procedure	£0.00	0	£0.00
Pre-Operative Assessment	£0.00	0	£0.00

2020/21			
Case/procedure	a. Spend	b. Number	c. Average cost
Inpatients	£0.00	0	£0.00
Day cases	£237,112.00	214	£1,108.00
Outpatient Consultation	£8,473.00	44	£192.57
Outpatient Procedure	£0.00	0	£0.00
Pre-Operative Assessment	£0.00	0	£0.00

2021/22			
Case/procedure	a. Spend	b. Number	c. Average cost
Inpatients	£0.00	0	£0.00
Day cases	£2,701,090.00	2,951	£915.31
Outpatient Consultation	£340,211.00	2,370	£143.55
Outpatient Procedure	£30,847.00	335	£92.08
Pre-Operative Assessment	£0.00	0	£0.00

2022/23			
Case/procedure	a. Spend	b. Number	c. Average cost
Inpatients	£0.00	0	£0.00
Day cases	£1,025,200.00	1,154	£888.39
Outpatient Consultation	£112,970.00	1,080	£104.60
Outpatient Procedure	£0.00	0	£0.00
Pre-Operative Assessment	£37,659.00	470	£80.13

2023/24			
Case/procedure	a. Spend	b. Number	c. Average cost
Inpatients	£0.00	0	£0.00
Day cases	£184,516.00	163	£1,132.00
Outpatient Consultation	£0.00	0	£0.00
Outpatient Procedure	£0.00	0	£0.00
Pre-Operative Assessment	£0.00	0	£0.00

2. The UHB does not hold information for other Health Boards in NHS Wales and is therefore unable to provide you with all of the information requested. The UHB can only provide the information it holds.

Therefore, you would need to request the additional information from the Freedom of Information Teams in each individual Health Board. Details on the Health Boards in Wales and contact details for each of them can be found via the following link:

[Local Services - NHS Wales](#)

However, the UHB provides within the tables below, its spend on Ophthalmology services by case/procedure, the number of cases and the average cost per case, during the 2019/20 to 2023/24 financial years.

2019/20			
Case/procedure	a. Spend	b. Number	c. Average cost
Inpatients	£335,571.00	160	£2,097.32
Day cases	£6,419,902.00	10,819	£593.39
Outpatient Consultation	£5,096,847.00	35,883	£142.04
Outpatient Procedure	£1,584,524.00	4,579	£346.04
Pre-Operative Assessment	£127,620.00	791	£161.34

2020/21			
Case/procedure	a. Spend	b. Number	c. Average cost
Inpatients	£356,120.00	72	£4,946.11
Day cases	£8,126,213.00	6,144	£1,322.63
Outpatient Consultation	£5,069,786.00	16,579	£305.80
Outpatient Procedure	£3,275,873.00	3,591	£912.25
Pre-Operative Assessment	£14,698.00	29	£506.83

2021/22			
Case/procedure	a. Spend	b. Number	c. Average cost
Inpatients	£372,033.00	83	£4,482.33
Day cases	£9,232,566.00	7,130	£1,294.89
Outpatient Consultation	£4,430,939.00	23,689	£187.05
Outpatient Procedure	£4,306,719.00	5,222	£824.73
Pre-Operative Assessment	£400,049.00	1,221	£327.64

2022/23			
Case/procedure	a. Spend	b. Number	c. Average cost
Inpatients	£308,824.00	86	£3,590.98
Day cases	£6,974,380.00	6,581	£1,059.78
Outpatient Consultation	£4,138,935.00	28,379	£145.84
Outpatient Procedure	£4,754,017.00	7,173	£662.77
Pre-Operative Assessment	£55,326.00	336	£164.66

2023/24			
Case/procedure	a. Spend	b. Number	c. Average cost
Inpatients	£238,467.00	79	£3,018.56
Day cases	£7,565,968.00	7,512	£1,007.18
Outpatient Consultation	£4,934,975.00	25,724	£191.84
Outpatient Procedure	£5,396,338.00	8,459	£637.94
Pre-Operative Assessment	£282,441.00	1,861	£151.77

3a & 3b. The UHB does not hold the requested information. Public Health Wales (PHW) collects, processes and collates this data for Health Boards across NHS Wales.

We therefore recommend that you re-direct this part of your request to the Freedom of Information Team in PHW, who should be able to help you with your enquiry. Contact details are as follows: -

Foi.phw@wales.nhs.uk or alternatively, you can contact: Freedom of Information Office, Public Health Wales, Floor 3, 2 Capital Quarter, Tyndall Street, Cardiff, CF10 4BZ.

Additionally, the UHB does not hold the information for all GP Surgeries. Therefore, this information would need to be requested directly from the individual GP Practices. Contact details for each of them can be found via the following link:

3c. The UHB is unable to provide you with the number of patients broken down by year as requested, due to the low number of cases (less than 5). Additionally, on grouping the data for the three period, some of the numbers are also less than 5. Therefore, where the figures in the table below have been replaced with an asterisk (*), the UHB is unable to provide you with the exact number 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.

However, the UHB provides within the table below the number of patients re-infected with Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)/Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD), during the three (3) year period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024.

STI/STD	Number
Primary Syphilis	9
Secondary syphilis	*
Eary latent syphilis	*
Gonorrhoea	36
Chlamydia	147
Trichomonas	5