

Reference:	FOI.21417.26
Subject:	Prostate Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
Date of Request:	21 August 2026

Requested:

1. Trust Details

- a. Trust full name:
- b. Trust address:
- c. Trust postcode:

2. Scanner Inventory

How many MRI scanners are used for prostate imaging at your Trust? (N):

3. For each scanner:

- a. Manufacturer:
- b. Scanner Model:
- c. Scanner magnetic field strength (T):
- d. What year was the scanner manufactured?:
- e. What year was the scanner software last updated?:
- f. Is this scanner a permanent or mobile unit?:
- g. Is this scanner PIRADS v2.1 compliant?:
- h. If 'NO', why is this scanner PIRADS v2.1 non-compliant? (Example: lack of high b-value ($\geq 1,400$ sec/mm²) image set):
- i. Is an endorectal coil used with this scanner?:
- j. If 'YES', please describe the endorectal coil used with this scanner (Example: DxTx Medical, eCoil):
- k. Are any AI-based reconstruction or acquisition acceleration techniques used with this MRI scanner? (Example: No / Yes, vendor-provided / Yes, third-party AI software / Other):
- l. If 'Other', please describe:
- m. What is the full time slot that you dedicate to a multiparametric prostate MRI scan, including set-up, patient preparation time, imaging sequences, and patient turnaround? (X minutes):
- n. What is the full time slot (minutes) that you dedicate to a biparametric prostate MRI scan, including set-up, patient preparation time, imaging sequences, and patient turnaround? (X minutes):

4. Supplementary Imaging Techniques

- a. Do you use an antispasmodic during prostate MRI imaging?:
- b. If 'YES', please describe your antispasmodic drug, route of administration and dose (Example: Hyoscine butylbromide, intramuscular, 20mg):
- c. Do you use any bowel preparation before prostate MRI imaging?:
- d. If 'YES', please describe your method of bowel preparation (Example: Rectal enema):
- e. Do you currently use an AI algorithm (commercial or academic) as part of your clinical workflow for prostate MRI reporting?:
- f. If 'YES', please describe which algorithm(s) is currently being used (Example: Pi - Lucida Medical):

5. Capacity

- a. How many prostate MRIs were performed at the Trust in the last 3 months?
- b. In the past 3 months, what proportion(%) of these scans were biparametric?
- c. How many prostate MRIs were performed at the Trust in 2025?

- d. In 2025, what proportion(%) of these scans were biparametric?
- e. How many prostate MRIs were performed at the Trust in 2024?
- f. In 2024, what proportion(%) of these scans were biparametric?
- g. How many prostate MRIs were performed at the Trust in 2023?
- h. In 2023, what proportion(%) of these scans were biparametric?

6. Workforce

How many radiologists report prostate MRIs at your Trust? (N):

7. For each radiologist

- a. How many prostate MRIs does radiologist X report per year?
- b. How many years of experience does radiologist X have in reporting prostate MRIs?

8. Access

- a. Based on the last 3 months, what is the mean wait time (days) for patients to receive an MRI having been referred onto the 2-week suspected prostate cancer pathway? (Duration from date of referral to date of scan in days):
- b. Based on the last 3 months, what is the mean wait time (days) for prostate MRI interpretation by a radiologist? (Duration from date of scan to date of report in days)

Response:

1a. Trust full name:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB).

1b. Trust address:

Corporate Offices, Second Floor, Block C, Government Buildings, Picton Terrace, Carmarthen.

1c. Trust postcode:

SA31 3BT.

2. The UHB has four (4) MRI scanners that are used for prostate imaging.

3. The UHB provides the information requested within the table below.

Question	Scanner 1	Scanner 2	Scanner 3	Scanner 4
a. Manufacturer	Siemens	Siemens	Siemens	Siemens
b. Model	Sola	Sola	Sola	Sola
c. Magnetic field strength	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
d. Year manufactured	2026	2020	2021	2011
e. Year software last updated	2026	2025	2025	2024
f. Permanent or mobile unit	Permanent	Permanent	Permanent	Permanent
g. PIRADS v2.1 compliant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
h. If 'NO', why non-compliant	Not applicable			
i. Endorectal coil used	No	No	No	No
j. If 'YES', describe the coil used	Not applicable			
k. AI-based reconstruction/acquisition acceleration techniques used	Deep resolve	Deep resolve	Deep resolve	Smart Speed
l. If 'Other', please describe	Not applicable			

m. Time slot dedicated to a multiparametric prostate MRI scan	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes
n. Time slot dedicated to a bi-parametric prostate MRI scan	45 minutes	45 minutes	45 minutes	45 minutes

4. The UHB provides the information requested within the table below.

Question	Answer
a. Antispasmodic used	Yes
b. If 'YES', please describe	Buscopan 20mg intramuscular (IM) prior to imaging, unless contraindicated
c. Bowel preparation used	No
d. If 'YES', please describe	Not applicable
e. AI algorithm used	No
f. If 'YES', please describe which algorithm(s) is currently being used	Not applicable

5. The UHB provides the information requested within the table below.

Question	Answer
a. Number of prostate MRIs during the period 1 June to 31 August 2026	401
b. Proportion bi-parametric	69%
c. Number of prostate MRIs during 2025 calendar year	1,770
d. Proportion bi-parametric	86%
e. Number of prostate MRIs during 2024 calendar year	1,476
f. Proportion bi-parametric	84%
g. Number of prostate MRIs during 2023 calendar year	1,230
h. Proportion bi-parametric	84%

6. The UHB has five (5) Radiologists that report prostate MRIs.

7a. The UHB provides within the table below, the number of prostate MRI reports undertaken, per Radiologist, during the period 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026.

Radiologist	Number
1	168
2	180
3	64
4	188
5	32

Additionally, nine hundred and seventy-two (972) prostate MRI reports were outsourced, during the period 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026.

7b. The UHB is withholding the personal information relating to third parties. This decision has been made as it is not within the reasonable expectations of these individuals that their personal information, would be released into the public domain by the UHB.
This information is classed as personal data of a third party. Therefore, it is being withheld in accordance with the exemption set out in section 40(2) of the FoIA, by virtue of section 40(3)(a) of

the FoIA, which permits a public authority to withhold personal data other than the requestor's where the disclosure would breach Data Protection principles.

This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)/UK General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR), 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.

8a. The average wait time from referral to MRI scan for patients with suspected prostate cancer, was seventeen (17) days, during the period 1 June to 31 August 2026.

8b. The average wait time for interpretation of a MRI scan for suspected prostate cancer by a Radiologist, was five (5) days, during the period 1 June to 31 August 2026.