

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.16374.25
<b>Subject:</b>	Reported incidents of wrong implants/prosthesis
<b>Date of Request:</b>	15 January 2025

**Requested:**

1. Since January 1, 2020, how many incidents have been reported to your Health Board involving a wrong implant or prosthesis?  
*Please note that this is any incident falling under the following definition: "Placement of an implant/prosthesis different from that specified in the procedural plan, either before or during the procedure. The incident is detected any time after the implant/prosthesis is placed in the patient."*
2. For each incident, please provide the month, year and the implant or prosthesis involved in the procedure. In addition, please confirm the total number of cases reported between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2024.
3. How many incidents fell under the definition of a Patient Safety Incident and how many were nationally reportable? Please state which cases met this definition.
4. How many incidents met the definition of a Never Event? Please state which cases were labelled as a Never Event.
5. How many incidents led to low, moderate, or severe harm to the patient?
6. What were the causes of implant/prosthesis incidents?
7. In total, how much has the Health Board paid in damages for legal claims related to wrong implant or prosthesis incidents?

**Response:**

1. – 6. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the exact number of patients 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 Freedom of Information Act 2000 (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.

7. The UHB can confirm that no payments have been made for legal claims relating to incidents of wrong implants or prosthesis.