Reference:	FOI.13711.24
Subject:	Robotic General Surgery
Date of Request:	1 February 2024

Requested:

If possible, I would like to make an FOI request to obtain the following information email for the time period of 2019-2022:

1. Do you have surgical robots?

If you do not please reply with 'I do not have a robot' and there is will be no need to reply to the rest of the request.

2. The total numbers of Emergency general surgery operations performed between January 1st 2019-January 1st 2023. Broken down by: Open, laparoscopic and robotic

3. Type of robot available in your trust and used in emergency general surgery cases (Examples include Da Vinci, Versius, Freehand, Soloassist, Microhand S, AESOP, Zeus).

4. Number of robotic general surgery cases performed between January 1st 2019-January 1st 2023. (this includes both emergency and non-emergency operations)

5. Number the following performed between January 1st 2019-January 1st 2023. Broken down by: Open, laparoscopic and robotic

    a. hot cholecystectomies
    b. laparotomies
    c. appendectomies
    d. hernia repairs
    e. abscess
    f. scrotal explorations (which may be under torsions or orchidopexy)

Regarding the abscess questions we are interested in all incision and drainages of abscesses in perianal, truncal, buttock and limb areas.

6. Mean length of stay of patients who have undergone the following performed between January 1st 2019-January 1st 2023. Broken down by: Open, laparoscopic and robotic.
    a. hot cholecystectomies
    b. laparotomies (how many times open abdomens are done)
    c. appendectomies
    d. hernia repairs
    e. abscess
    f. scrotal explorations (which may be under torsions or orchidopexy)

7. The number and type of complications that occurred in robotic emergency general surgery cases between January 1st 2019-January 1st 2023. Including but not limited to conversions to another type of surgery, device-related complications, injury to surrounding structures or tissue, serums, infection, leakage, hernias.

8. Number of staff trained to assist with robotic cases.

9. The average (Over 4 weeks) number of staff trained to assist n robotic surgery available out of hours (weekends/nights).

To elaborate emergency general surgery would include robotic assisted operations in any of: Acute surgical diseases of the abdomen, mesenteric ischaemia, appendectomies, cholecystectomies, hernias, bowel obstruction, adhesiolysis, diverticular disease, diverticulitis, incarceration, perforation, peritonitis, and acute conditions of the gastrointestinal tract.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms that as part of a research project, it is trialling an Orthopaedic robot in Prince Philip Hospital.

2. - 9. Not applicable.

Additionally, the UHB can confirm that it is currently in discussions regarding a robot for upper gastrointestinal surgery, colorectal surgery or urology.