

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.5898.21
<b>Subject:</b>	Special Care General Anaesthetic (GA) waiting list
<b>Date of Request:</b>	26 April 2021

**Requested:**

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information:

1. The number of children currently on the Special Care GA waiting list in your Health Board
2. The number of adults currently on the Special Care GA waiting list in your Health Board
3. The number of children treated under GA per week in your Health Board
4. The number of adults treated under GA per week in your Health Board
5. The number of children referred for GA per week by your Health Board
6. The number of adults referred for GA per week by Health Board

**Response:**

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board's (UHB) GA waiting list includes all children and does not differentiate special care children. The UHB confirms that there are one hundred and twenty six (126) children on the GA waiting list, as at 30 April 2021.
2. The UHB confirms that nineteen (19) adults are on the waiting list for Special Care GA, as at 30 April 2021.
3. The UHB confirms that there are twelve (12) GA appointments for children per week.
4. The UHB confirms that there are no adult weekly lists, as adult GA treatment is only held once a month. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, services were commissioned for seven (7) adult GA patient appointments per month. This has been reduced to three (3) per month, to ensure patient safety, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the UHB can confirm that in line with Welsh Government (WG) clinical guidance, the number of adult GA patients will increase to five (5) per month, as of 25 May 2021.
5. The UHB confirms that the number of children referred for GA appointments per week varies. Therefore, the UHB provides within the table below, for comparison, the average number of child GA referrals, across the months of November and December for the years 2019 and 2020.

<b>November &amp; December</b>	<b>Average number of referrals</b>
2019	25
2020	12

6. The UHB confirms that the number of adults referred for GA appointments per week varies. Adult patients are referred into Minor Oral Surgery and undertake an assessment to ascertain if the patient is more suitable for sedation or GA. Again, by way of example, the UHB confirms that an average of five (5) adult referrals per week, were received for assessment to ascertain the treatment type that is either sedation or GA, during November and December 2020. Approximately 95% of referrals are assessed as requiring GA.