

Reference:	FOI.18209.25
Subject:	Thrombectomy services
Date of Request:	27 August 2025

Requested:

1. Withybush Hospital is commissioned with Southmead Hospital, Bristol to accept stroke patients for Thrombectomy's, please can you confirm what date this service started?
2. Please can you confirm if Glangwili and Prince Philip have the same commission for Thrombectomy's in place? And what dates is this from?
3. Please can you confirm the reasons why there is no commission in place for patient referrals from Withybush for thrombectomy's in Southmead Hospital between 10pm and 6am?
 - a. Who made that decision to not have a service?
 - b. And is there a patient safety report or analysis report to back the reasons no commission is in place? If so, can I have a copy of this?
4. Since the Agreement came into place for thrombectomy's with Bristol, how many patients from Withybush were declined due to being referred outside the commissioned hours? Can the figures be broken down into monthly?
5. Of those declined referrals, what were the outcomes of those patients? Can the reasons be broken down?
6. Why is there no service in place other than Bristol for stroke patients to have thrombectomy's if between 10pm and 6am due to Bristol declining them?

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) does not hold all the information requested, the Thrombectomy service was commissioned on an All-Wales basis by Welsh Government (WG) and Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC), now NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (NWJCC).

We therefore recommend that you redirect questions 1, 3 and 6 of your request to the Freedom of Information Teams in WG and NWJCC, who may be able to help you further. Contact details are as follows:-

Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales or alternatively, you can contact: Freedom of Information Officer, Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ.

nwicc@wales.nhs.uk or alternatively, you can contact: NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee, Freedom of Information Request, Corporate Services, Unit G1, The Willowford, Main Avenue, Treforest Industrial Estate, Pontypridd, CF37 5YL.

However, whilst operating in accordance with the Section 45 Freedom of Information Code of Practice, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance and provides the information it holds below.

2. The UHB can confirm that there are commissioned Thrombectomy services available for all four (4) of its acute hospitals, Bronglais General Hospital (BGH), Glangwili General Hospital (GGH), Prince Philip Hospital (PPH) and Withybush General Hospital (WGH). However, BGH's commissioned service is based at The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust.
4. & 5. The UHB has undertaken a search of its Datix Incident and Risk Reporting system for referrals from WGH to the Thrombectomy service for the period 1 April 2021 to the date of your request. Unfortunately, the UHB does not hold the information requested as the reports do not capture the detail required, such as, time of referral and patient outcomes.

However, WG or NWJCC may hold a central record and may be able to assist you further with these parts of your request, contact details are provided above.