

Reference:	FOI.12644.23
Subject:	Urology patients
Date of Request:	12 September 2023

Requested:

The number of urology patients in your health board area currently waiting for surgery for insertion of a supra pubic catheter. Please provide the information in the form:

1. Number of patients waiting in total
2. Number of patients who are male/female separately
3. The average waiting time for the above by sex
4. The longest current wait times again broken down by sex.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the information broken down by gender for questions 2 to 4 as requested, due to the low numbers (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 (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.

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. Therefore, the UHB provides below the information requested for all patients.

1. The UHB confirms that there are twelve (12) patients currently waiting for surgery for insertion of a supra pubic catheter.
2. Section 40 exemption applied.
3. The UHB confirms that the average waiting time for surgery for insertion of a supra pubic catheter is currently eighty-two (82) weeks.
4. The UHB confirms that the longest waiting time is one hundred and seventy-eight (178) weeks, as at the date of your request.