

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.20313.26
<b>Subject:</b>	Urology
<b>Date of Request:</b>	28 April 2026

**Requested:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the adoption of modern surgical technology within adult urology services, specifically regarding the treatment of phimosis and related conditions.

1. Does the Health Board utilize disposable circular stapling anastomat devices (e.g., ZSR, CircCurer, or generic automated stapling equivalents) for adult therapeutic procedures?
2. If yes, please specify the preferred mechanism of the device used (e.g., pistol-grip or dual-handle/scissor-grip construction).
3. What is the average theatre time allocated for a traditional hand-sutured procedure versus an automated stapler procedure for adult patients?
4. Are these procedures performed in a Day Case unit/community setting or a Main Operating Theatre under general anesthesia?
5. In accordance with the Montgomery v Lanarkshire (2015) ruling, does the Board provide information to adult patients on the choice between traditional freehand surgery and automated stapling alternatives?

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) does not hold the requested information as it does not use any automated stapling devices.