

Reference:	FOI.21555.26
Subject:	Vascular Access Devices (VAD)
Date of Request:	9 September 2026

Requested:

1. Does your Trust provide:
 - a. PICC insertion (Yes/No)
 - b. Midline insertion (Yes/No)
 - c. Totally Implantable Venous Access Device Chest/Arm insertion (Yes/No)
 - d. Tunnelled Central Vascular Access Devices insertion (Yes/No)
2. Who provides these procedures?
 - Dedicated Vascular Access Team
 - Interventional Radiology
 - Anaesthetics
 - OPAT Service
 - Nutrition service
 - Medical Teams
 - Nursing Teams
 - Other (please specify)
3. Who performs PICC/Midline insertions?
 - Nurses
 - Doctors
 - Radiographers
 - Other
4. Who performs TIVAD/Tunnelled VAD insertions?
 - a. Nurses
 - b. Doctors
 - c. Radiographers
 - d. Other
5. Where are PICCs/Midlines inserted? Please select all that apply:
 - a. Procedure room
 - b. Patient bedside
 - c. Interventional Radiology
 - d. Theatre
 - e. Other (please specify)
6. Where are TIVAD/Tunnelled VAD inserted? Please select all that apply:
 - a. Procedure room
 - b. Patient bedside
 - c. Interventional Radiology
 - d. Theatre
 - e. Other (please specify)
7. Does your Trust have a dedicated Vascular Access Team? (Yes/No)

8. If yes, please provide:
- Team composition (e.g. nurses, doctors, advanced practitioners)
 - Number of staff (WTE if available)
 - Whether the service is nurse-led, doctor-led, or jointly led
9. Under which department/directorate does the service sit?
10. If readily available, please provide the number of PICCs, Midlines, TIVAD/Tunnelled VAD inserted during the most recent complete financial year.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all the information requested for question 10, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate limit” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2 ½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

In order to provide you with the information requested, the UHB would need to undertake a search of all patient health records for the 2025/26 financial year, to identify any information that may fulfil this part of your request, as not all the information is centrally recorded.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the FoIA, which provides an exemption from a public authority’s obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

However, under Section 16 of the FoIA, we are required as a public authority, to provide advice and assistance so far as it is reasonable to individuals who have made a request under the FoIA, which can include assisting a requestor to further refine their request.

The UHB suggests that you may refine your request by reducing the timeframe requested to a one (1) month period. However, the UHB would still be required to undertake a manual trawl of all patient health records, to identify the information that may fulfil this part of your request. Therefore, the outcome would be dependent on the number of records identified within a shorter time period.

1. The UHB provides the information requested within the table below.

Question	Answer
a. PICC insertion (Yes/No)	Yes
b. Midline insertion (Yes/No)	Yes
c. Totally Implantable (TIVAD) Chest/Arm insertion (Yes/No)	No
d. Tunnelled Central (TCVAD) insertion (Yes/No)	No

2. The UHB confirms that Anaesthetics and Anaesthetic Associates (AA) provide the above procedures.
3. The UHB confirms that doctors and AA perform PICC/Midline insertions.

4. The UHB does not hold the information requested, as it does not perform TIVAD/TCVAD insertions.
5. PICCs/Midlines are inserted within the following clinical areas:
- Patient bedside
 - Interventional Radiology Fluoroscopy
 - Theatre, if required
 - Oncology Procedure Room
 - Medical Day Unit.
6. Not applicable.
7. The UHB confirms that it does not have a dedicated Vascular Access Team.
8. Not applicable.
9. Not applicable.
10. An exemption under Section 12 of the FoIA has been applied. Under Section 16, the UHB provides the number of PICC lines and Midlines inserted by its Oncology services in GGH and PPH, during the 2025 calendar year.

Procedure	Number
PICC	385
Midlines	31