

Reference:	FOI.14900.24
Subject:	Vascular access devices
Date of Request:	19 July 2024

Requested:

Vascular access devices

Information requested in respect of Peripherally Inserted Central Catheters (PICC)

1a. Please can you kindly provide a purchasing export report detailing the following relevant to peripherally inserted central catheters:

- Manufacturer
- Brand
- Product Code
- Description
- Volume (in pieces)

Please could you provide this information for all supply routes (direct, NHS Supply Chain or other distributor) for the following time periods and name the files according to the year:

- 1st January 2022 – 31st December 2022
- 1st January 2023 – 31st December 2023
- 1st January 2024 – 31st June 2024

1b. Do you use any of the following tip navigation systems and how many of each do you currently have within the Trust:

- BD Sherlock 3CG
- Vygon Pilot
- Other (please state)

1c. In percentage terms, approximately what proportion of PICC placements per annum are being performed:

- Under fluoroscopy
- At the bed side
- Other (please state)

1d. Which clinical area(s) or clinical roles insert PICC lines in your organisation?

Information requested in respect of Midline Catheters

2a. Please can you kindly provide a purchasing export report detailing the following relevant to midline catheters:

- Manufacturer
- Brand
- Product Code
- Description
- Volume (in pieces)

Please could you provide this information for all supply routes (direct, NHS Supply Chain or other distributor) for the following time periods and name the files according to the year:

- 1st January 2022 – 31st December 2022
- 1st January 2023 – 31st December 2023
- 1st January 2024 – 31st June 2024

2b. Which clinical area(s) or clinical roles insert Midline catheters lines in your organisation?

Information requested in respect of Implanted Access Ports and Port Access Needles

3a. Please can you kindly provide a purchasing export report detailing the following relevant to implantable ports and port access needles:

- Manufacturer
- Brand
- Product Code
- Description
- Volume (in pieces)

Please could you provide this information for all supply routes (direct, NHS Supply Chain or other distributor) for the following time periods and name the files according to the year:

- 1st January 2022 – 31st December 2022
- 1st January 2023 – 31st December 2023
- 1st January 2024 – 31st June 2024

3b. Which clinical area(s) or clinical roles implant ports in your organisation?

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of the information requested, 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 (FoIA) and the Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate limit” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

In order to provide you with the data requested for question 1c, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all patient records, to identify who had Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) placements, and then undertake a further trawl to classify how they were administered, to identify any information that may fulfil your request, as this information is not recorded centrally.

Additionally, due to the information for questions 1b and 3b not being centrally recorded and the many services across the UHB that would need to be contacted to identify if they hold any information that would fulfil these parts of your request, gathering the remaining information will exceed the time/cost limit allowed under the FoIA.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (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, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds below.

The UHB provides the requested information for questions 1a, 2a and 3a for the requested periods, at Attachment 1.

1b. The UHB confirms that it uses the Arrow TELEFLEX tip navigation system in Withybush General Hospital (WGH) only.

1d. The UHB confirms that Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) are inserted by the UHB's Anaesthetic Associates and Consultant Anaesthetists, on a clinical needs basis.

Additionally, on rare occasions, PICC and Midline Catheters are inserted while patients are in the Critical Care Unit (CCU).

2b. The UHB confirms that Midline Catheters are placed by Anaesthetic Associates and Consultant Anaesthetists, on a clinical needs basis.

3b. The UHB confirms that implantable ports for Oncology are now placed by the Vascular Access Service, in Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB).