

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.5987.21
<b>Subject:</b>	Venesection procedures
<b>Date of Request:</b>	12 May 2021

**Requested:**

1. For the most recent 12 month period available, the number of venesection procedures carried out by your organisation as a therapy or treatment for genetic haemochromatosis?
2. For the most recent 12 month period available, the average total cost of a venesection appointment (to include clinical consumables, nursing or phlebotomy staff time, administrative overheads etc.)

**Response:**

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides, within the table overleaf, the number of venesection procedures undertaken across the UHB, as a therapy or treatment for genetic haemochromatosis, during the financial year 2020/21.

2020/21	Number
April	10
May	29
June	41
July	73
August	89
September	107
October	109
November	91
December	82
January	84
February	69
March	87

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

In order to provide you with the requested information, the UHB would need to undertake a manual search of all Haematology financial records to identify any information that would fulfil your request, as the information is not recorded centrally by specific speciality.

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, 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 FoIA.

Therefore, the UHB provides, within the table below, the average costs of a Haematology appointment, relating to Out Patient Department (OPD) and day cases for all specialities, for the financial year 2019/20.

<b>Appointment</b>	<b>Average cost</b>
Outpatient Attendance – First appointment	£239.00
Outpatient Attendance – Follow up appointment	£286.00
Day Care Attendance	£214.00

Please note, that the costs provided are fully absorbed costings and therefore, include elements of Corporate, IT, Estates, Hotel services costs etc.