

Reference:	FOI.5645.21
Subject:	Weighing devices
Date of Request:	22 March 2021

Requested:

1. The value of total spend on weighing devices (split between patient and other) excluding servicing in the last 3 calendar years split by year
2. The value of that spend by weighing device supplier in the last 3 calendar years split by year
3. Do you have any weighing devices integrated directly or indirectly to an electronic patient records system (EPR)?
4. Which electronic patient records system do you use/plan to use?
5. If you haven't done so already, do you intend to integrate weighing scales to an EPR in the next 12-24 months?
6. Do you use Welch Allen Vital signs monitors in the Trust, if so, how many and are any of these connected to weighing devices?
7. How many incidents have you reported in the last 3 calendar years which relate to an incorrect dose of vancomycin, gentamicin and alteplase?
8. How many incidents have you recorded in the last 3 calendar years where an incorrect weight of the patient is mentioned in the report?

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the information requested for questions 1, 2 and 8, 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, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

In order to provide you with the information requested, the UHB would need to undertake a manual search of all maintenance records and inventories in addition to a manual trawl of all patient records, to identify any information that would fulfil your request for questions 1, 2 and 8, as the information is not recorded centrally.

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.

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.

The UHB's responses to your other questions are as follows:

3. The UHB confirms that it does not have any weighing devices integrated directly or indirectly to an Electronic Patient Records (EPR) system.
4. The UHB confirms that the EPR system used is the Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS).
5. The UHB confirms that it does not currently intend to integrate weighing scales to an EPR system within the next twelve (12) to twenty four (24) months.
6. The UHB confirms that it has one hundred and ninety six (196) Welch Allen Vital Signs monitors, none of which are connected to weighing scales.
7. The UHB provides, within the table overleaf, the number of incidents that have been reported, relating to incorrect doses of vancomycin, gentamicin and alteplase, during the calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Medication	2018	2019	2020
Vancomycin	*	9	*
Gentamicin	*	9	12
Alteplase	0	0	0

Where the figures in the table have been replaced with an asterisk (*), the UHB is unable to provide you with the exact number of incidents due to the low numbers of cases (5 and under), 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 2000. This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018/General Data Protection Regulations 2016 (GDPR), as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles 6 and 9 of the GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the Data Protection Act 2018/General Data Protection Regulations 2016 defines personal data as data which 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.