Reference: FOI.2281.20
Subject: Women’s health services
Date of Request: 9 January 2020

Requested:

1. List of all practices (including address and postcode details) that are contracted to fit/offer an Internal Uterine System/Device (coil) fitting service
2. How many IUS/Ds (coils) have each practice fitted/removed/reviewed/claimed for in the financial year 2018/19
3. How much are contracted practices paid per IUS/IUD (coil) procedure (fit, remove, review or other) they currently contracted to pay per fit
4. If fitting service is available how many insertions and removals have been undertaken in the last 12 months for each practice
5. Does the practice have a bespoke clinic for IUS/D (coil) fitting or are appointments for IUS/D (coil) fits made as part of the routine appointment schedule or both
6. Is there a waiting time for IUS/IUD (coil) fits at the practice and if so how long (less than 6 weeks, between 6 weeks – 6 months, or longer than 6 months)
7. If a practice does not have its own fitting service, which practice/clinic/hospital do they refer the majority of their patients that require an IUS/D (coil) fit to (type, name, address and postcode) and how many do they refer
8. Do they have someone within the practice who provides specialist contraceptive counselling and if so what is their role (doctor, nurse, healthcare assistant, healthcare visitor or other)

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is only able to provide a response to question numbers 1-4 as information relating to questions 5 – 8 is practice specific and will need to be requested from each practice individually.

Attachment 1 provides a list of the GP practices within the Health Board’s geography which offer the insertion and removal of internal uterine systems (IUS); and the number of IUS claims during the 2018/19 financial year and the 2019/20 financial year to date.

Contracted practices are paid £99.99 per 9 units for the insertion of IUS, the UHB’s ‘Specification for a Local Enhanced Service Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC)’ states:

“The payment of £99.99 (9 units) for IUCDs on insertion is intended to cover both the insertion and subsequent removal; the payment is front loaded on the assumption that the GP will eventually be asked to remove the device they originally inserted. It is accepted that occasionally a patient does not require removal of the IUCD by the GP or the GP is asked to remove devices they did not originally insert; however these two scenarios are expected to balance out each other over the course of the year and therefore no payment is due on removal, only on insertion.”