

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 23-941

12 January 2024

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting

1. Annual total Trust income on Ophthalmology services, as defined above, for the years 2017/18 to 2022/23

- This should be broken down by HRG Code and Treatment Function Code

Please see the attached document.

2. Annual total Trust Activity in relation to Ophthalmology services, as defined above, for the years 2017/18 to 2022/23

---This should be broken down by HRG Code and Treatment Function Code

When we ask for HRG Code and Treatment function we are referring to the HRG codes in the National Tariff Workbook which can be found here:

https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/22-23NT_AnnexA-National-tariff-workbook-Nov22-1.xlsx

By our understanding, 'Admitted patient care, elective and outpatient procedures' are covered by Healthcare Resource Group Code (HRG Codes) and the Ophthalmology Services fall under the codes beginning BZ*, in the 93 rows 121-213 of the "1 APC & OPROC" tab in the National Tariff Workbook 2022/23**

Furthermore, there is additional data on first and follow-up 'outpatient attendances' falling under the Treatment Function Codes '130 Ophthalmology Service' and for completion the "216 Paediatric Ophthalmology Service" on the "2 Outpatients" tab.

Please see the attached document.

3. Waiting times

For each of the financial years between 2017/18 and 2022/23, the average time that a patient would have to wait between referral and first appointment for the following conditions:

A. Cataracts

B. Glaucoma

C. Age Related Macular Degeneration

D. Diabetic Retinopathy

We would strongly prefer data to be provided in an Excel compatible file-format, especially if there is a large quantity of data. Tables in PDF files cannot be reliably copied and risks errors and mis-transcriptions.

A note on COVID & Block contracts

We understand that COVID led to changes to the payment regimes and the use of block contracts. We realise that during this period this may make analysis of income from different types of activity challenging to assess.

Taking into account these challenges, we would be grateful if the Trust is able to provide a consistent dataset across the six year financial years.

	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
Age Related Macular Degeneration						
Average Wait (Days)	18	15	54	29	22	29
Cataracts						
Average Wait (Days)	136	97	122	223	145	164
Glaucoma						
Average Wait (Days)	1311	586	134	103	92	140
Diabetic Retinopathy						
Average Wait (Days)	-	-	-	63	57	52

**Please note we can only provide information regarding Diabetic Retinopathy from April 2020.*

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Data Protection Officer
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust