

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 25-215

1 April 2025

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 not hold the information you are requesting

I am submitting this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to obtain data on NHS treatment of complications arising from surgical procedures performed overseas.

Request Details

1. NHS Admissions for Complications Following Overseas Surgeries

- The total number of hospital admissions where the NHS has treated patients for complications resulting from surgeries conducted abroad.
- A yearly breakdown from January 2020 to January 2025 (or the most recent available period).

2. Breakdown of Patients Treated

For each year, please provide where available:

- Age group of patients (e.g.: under 18, 18-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65+).
- Gender of patients.

3. Data Classified Under Relevant ICD-10 Codes (or their NHS equivalents):

Please provide a breakdown of cases recorded under the following ICD-10 codes related to complications of surgical procedures:

- T81 – Complications of procedures (e.g., infections, wound disruption, foreign bodies left in the body).
- T82-T85 – Complications of prosthetic devices, implants, and grafts.
- T86 – Failure and rejection of transplanted organs and tissues.
- T87 – Complications of amputations and reattachments.
- T88 – Other complications of surgical and medical care (including anaesthesia-related complications).
- Y60-Y69 – Surgical errors and misadventures (e.g., accidental punctures, foreign objects left inside patients, failure of sterile precautions, inappropriate procedures).
- Y70-Y79 – Medical devices associated with adverse incidents.
- Y83-Y84 – Abnormal patient reactions or complications following surgery or other

medical procedures.

4. Specific Details on Procedures Leading to NHS Admissions

Where available, please provide:

- The type of surgery the patient originally underwent abroad (e.g., cosmetic surgery, weight loss surgery, orthopaedic surgery, dental work, etc.).
- The intended purpose of the surgery (e.g., aesthetic enhancement, weight loss, joint replacement, reconstructive surgery, etc.).
- The type of complication requiring NHS intervention (e.g., infection, implant failure, excessive bleeding, wound breakdown, nerve damage, sepsis).

5. NHS Cost of Treating Complications from Overseas Surgeries

- The total annual cost incurred by the NHS in treating complications from overseas surgeries.
- If available, an estimated breakdown of costs by procedure type.

We do not hold this information. Our systems do not have a code for procedures that were undertaken at another hospital/centre and we do not have a specific diagnosis code to identify these patients.

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