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Ymddiriedolaeth GIG
Prifysgol Felindre
Velindre University
NHS Trust



Gwasanaeth Gwaed Cymru
Welsh Blood Service

Pencadlys Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Prifysgol Felindre
Velindre University NHS Trust Headquarters
2 Cwrt Charnwood
Heol Billingsley
Parc Nantgarw
Caerdydd/Cardiff
CF15 7QZ



Canolfan Ganser Felindre
Velindre Cancer Centre

Ffôn/Phone : (029) 20196161
<https://velindre.nhs.wales>

Date: 27th November 2023
Ref: CORP 2023 - 184

Dear *****

Freedom of Information request: MRI scans and macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent(s) (CORP 2023 - 184)

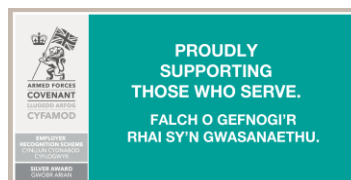
Thank you for your request for information which the Trust received on 10th November 2023.

Your Request:

- The number of MRI scans performed for the following,*
 - Brain
 - Spine
 - Other Surrounding Tissue
 - Whole Body
 - Head & Neck
 - Thorax, including Breast
 - Abdomen, including Liver & Kidneys
 - Pelvis, including Prostate
 - Musculo-skeletal system
 - Other
 - Cardiac
 - Angiography
- The number of MRI scans for the above listed investigations using a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent(s)*
- The average number of doses of a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent(s) per scan*
- The number of rescans, which are performed due to the outcome of a poor-quality image when using a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent in the initial scan.*
- The number of rereports required due to the outcome of a poor-quality image when using a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent in the initial scan.*

Please provide the above information for the five financial years ending 2021/22.

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Please find the Trust's response below:

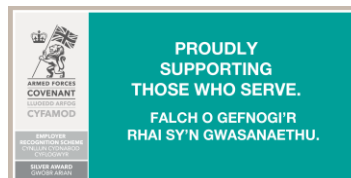
1. The number of MRI scans performed for the following,

- **Brain**
- **Spine**
- **Other Surrounding Tissue**
- **Whole Body**
- **Head & Neck**
- **Thorax, including Breast**
- **Abdomen, including Liver & Kidneys**
- **Pelvis, including Prostate**
- **Musculo-skeletal system**
- **Other**
- **Cardiac**
- **Angiography**

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Brain	975	1006	1042	972	1068
Spine	332	341	329	390	406
Other surrounding tissue	0	0	0	0	0
Whole Body	22	0	0	0	<6
Head & Neck	52	22	28	20	33
Thorax inc Breast	18	10	11	22	24
Abdomen inc Liver and Kidney	218	211	289	308	443
Musculo-Skeletal system	52	48	41	48	54
Pelvis inc Prostate	512	619	623	556	645
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Cardiac	0	0	0	0	0
Angiography	0	0	0	0	0

Where the figure provided is less than 6, and where simple calculations could identify fields that contain less than 6, the Trust has applied an exemption under Section 40(2) (personal data) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is because the Trust believes there is a potential risk of individuals being able to be identified if the figures were disclosed.

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2. The number of MRI scans for the above listed investigations using a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent(s)

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Brain	956	970	1014	933	1022
Spine	63	58	56	63	67
Other surrounding tissue	0	0	0	0	0
Whole Body	0	0	0	0	0
Head & Neck	22	15	19	17	20
Thorax inc Breast	7	<6	<6	13	17
Abdomen inc Liver and Kidney	174	160	212	242	368
Musculo-Skeletal system	41	39	26	29	43
Pelvis inc Prostate	38	54	48	47	52
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Cardiac	0	0	0	0	0
Angiography	0	0	0	0	0

Where the figure provided is less than 6, and where simple calculations could identify fields that contain less than 6, the Trust has applied an exemption under Section 40(2) (personal data) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is because the Trust believes there is a potential risk of individuals being able to be identified if the figures were disclosed.

With regards to questions 3,4 and 5, the Trust is applying a Qualified Exemption under Section 12 (Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit), the legislation in this instance states:

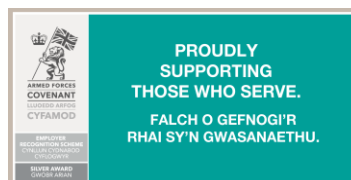
12. Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit.

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

The cost limit is calculated at a flat rate of £25 per hour of work and, for public authorities, the cost limit is £450 (18 hours work).

In order to establish if contrast is sub-optimal, a multi-person assessment of each contrast scan would be required. This would take in excess of 2000 hours (allowing a conservative estimate of 30 mins per scan x 2 members of staff for over 2000 scans).

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I trust this answers your request for information, however, should you not be satisfied with the information supplied or the process of supplying it, you have a right to complain and request a review. Please note that you must submit a request for a review within 40 days of the date of this letter.

You should forward your complaint to:-

Mr Ian Bevan via FOI.VUNHST@wales.nhs.uk
Head of Information Governance
Velindre University NHS Trust
2, Charnwood Court
Heol Billingsley
Parc Nantgarw
Cardiff / Caerdydd
CF15 7QZ
Tel / Ffon - 029 20196161

Should you wish to take your complaint further, if you are still unhappy with the decision after review, you can contact the:-

Information Commissioner's Office - Wales
2nd Floor,
Churchill House,
Churchill Way,
Cardiff,
CF10 2HH
Telephone: 0330 414 6421
email: wales@ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Lauren Fear
Director of Corporate Governance and Chief of Staff
Velindre University NHS Trust
2 Charnwood Court
Heol Billingsley
Parc Nantgarw
Cardiff CF15 7QZ

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