



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_50_25

You asked:

I would like to put in a Freedom of Information request to the Joint Commissioning Committee for the following information on spend by NHS Wales health boards on both corrective surgery and on dealing with complications as a consequence of procedures carried out overseas.

1. How many people in total have had to have corrective surgery to deal with complications from surgery abroad in each of the following financial years: 2021-22; 2022-2023; 2023-2024, 2024- present?
2. How many surgical procedures have been carried out in total to revise or deal with complications from surgery carried out abroad in each of the financial years: 2021-22; 2022-2023; 2023-2024, 2024- present?
3. How much is the total spend, or failing that the estimated spend, to the health board of corrective surgeries to deal with complications from surgeries carried out abroad in each of the following financial years: 2021-22; 2022-2023; 2023-2024, 2024- present?
4. What types of corrective surgery have taken place to deal with complications from surgery that has taken place abroad in the last 5 financial years? E.g. bariatric, plastic, maxillofacial
5. What types of initial operation have taken place abroad (for example, gastric band surgery, breast reduction) have needed revision in Wales by NHS surgeons in the last 5 financial years?

Our response:

We can confirm that the Joint Commissioning Committee does not centrally record this information. The information you require would be recorded within an individual patient's health record as part of their ongoing care. To provide you with this information, would require a manual trawl and significantly exceed the 18 hours' time and £450 cost limit set out within Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

To clarify, whilst we have ICD-10 codes for 'Complication of Surgery' we are unable to distinguish between surgeries in the UK or outside the UK. In addition, they only get the Primary ICD code, so if these 'Complication of Surgery' codes appeared in the secondary or tertiary etc. positions instead of the primary then we would miss these procedures in our analysis.