



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_342_25

You asked:

Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request the following information.

The request relates to home enteral tube feeding, which is a way of providing nutrition to people who can't eat and drink normally. Dietitians within your organisation will likely be best placed to help with this information request.

1. Does your organisation provide care to individuals aged 0-25 who may use home enteral feeding tubes?

Yes.

2. How many patients has your organisation provided dietetic care for home enteral tube feeding between 01-01-2023-31-12-2024?

A total of 664 patients we were provided with dietetic care for home enteral tube feeding between the dates requested.

a. Divided into the following age categories: 0-18, 18-25, 25+ (age when they joined the caseload or age on 01-01-23 if they were on the caseload throughout this period).

We can confirm that the Health Board does not centrally record this level of information for this specific date. 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.

However, to assist you with your request we have provided an age breakdown of the current active caseload below.

Aged 0-17	Aged 18-25	Aged 25+
163	29	116

b. If possible, please provide caseload numbers by age (e.g. <1, 1-2, 2-3... years etc.)

Please see response above.

3. Of these, how many individuals use a blended diet*?

a. Divided in the following age categories: 0-18, 18-25, 25+

	Aged 0-17	Aged 18-25	Aged 25+
Number of current active caseload using a blended diet	19	**	0

Please note - Where the figures are less than 5, this has been denoted by **. The exact figures have been withheld due to the low numbers involved.

Where numbers are low we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. Also, responses under the Freedom of Information Act are made available to the public at large. The data is classed as personal data as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute as unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

b. If possible, please provide caseload numbers by age (e.g. <1, 1-2, 2-3... years etc.)

We are unable to provide you with the level of detail you are seeking due to the low numbers involved. Please see response above (S40 applied).

4. Does your organisation have the following:

- a. Local blended diet policy – Acute setting - No
- b. Local blended diet policy – Community setting - No
- c. Blended diet guideline - No
- d. Blended diet standard operating guideline or procedure - No
- e. Blended diet training package - No
- f. If yes to 4a-4e, please provide a copy. - N/A

We do not currently have any blended diet training resource(s) or local guidance or policy to support blended diet feeding. However, we currently utilise the guidance produced in November 2021 by the British Dietetic Association (BDA). Please see link provided below:

<https://www.bda.uk.com/static/33331d33-21d4-47a5-bbb79142980766a7/FINAL-Practice-Toolkit-The-Use-of-Blended-Diet-with-Enteral-Feeding-Tubes-NOV-2021.pdf>

*A blended diet is the use of everyday foods blended to a puree and given via an enteral feeding tube. This may be used exclusively or in combination with commercial formula.

5.Are any staff employed by your organisation in roles funded by income provided by an enteral feeding provider (e.g. Nutricia, Abbott)?

Yes.

a. If yes, please state number of posts (whole time equivalent) and Agenda for Change banding.

Posts funded by income provided by an enteral feeding provider are as follows:

WTE	Band	Position
0.8	B3	Adult Support Staff
0.5	B6	Adult Dietitian
1.5	B7	Adult Dietitian