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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_224_26

You asked:

I am writing to request aggregated information relating to serious incidents, internal reviews, or external investigations involving surgery at Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board during the period 2002 to date (or if deemed excessive, please provide up to the year which comes within the FOI Act timeframe permitted (18 hours) but please state 2002 – to which year has been provided).

Please confirm:

1. Whether any serious incident investigations, clinical reviews, or external inquiries were conducted relating to this specialty during that period.
2. Whether any patterns of concern were identified relating to surgical practice or patient safety.
3. Whether any departmental or governance actions were taken as a result.

Our response:

1. Report 1: The below list are incidents that have been reported under the service of surgery that were reported externally to Welsh Government / NHS Executive:

Year Incident Reported	Total Number of Incidents
2016	0
2017	0
2018	0
2019	0
2020	**
2021	**
2022	0
2023	0
2024	**
2025	0
2026	0

Report 2: Since April 2023 please see below incidents that have been reported as Duty of Candour

Year Incident Reported	Total Number of Incidents
2023	0
2024	**
2025	0
2026	0

In relation to Ombudsman cases, we have not been able to locate any records specifically for 'surgical procedure, operation results and operation failings' for the service of general surgery and sub specialties.

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.

2. We cannot determine whether there were patterns of concern were identified relating to surgical practice or patient safety. The timeframe of 2002 onwards is an issue as from a Datix perspective we don't have a continuous record from that year to current, especially as Cwm Taf Morgannwg was only formed on merging with Bridgend in 2019. We as a Health Board do not have access to Bridgend data prior to 2019 (in terms of Datix systems) as that will sit with Swansea Bay UHB.

For any data prior to 2019 in relation to the Bridgend area, we would direct you to SBUHB for a response - FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board was established on 1 April 2019. Therefore, due to the timeframe requested, the information prior to this relates to the previous Cwm Taf area only and does not reflect the boundary change.

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