

FOI 3870

29th July 2026

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

I am seeking information relating to procedures recorded under OPCS-4 code H44.1.

Please provide, for each financial year (or calendar year if more readily available) from 2016 to 2026, the following:

- 1. The number of H44.1 procedures performed.**
- 2. The total number of bed days associated with patients undergoing H44.1 procedures.**
- 3. The total clinical cost associated with these procedures, where recorded and available.**

If possible, please provide the above data:

***Broken down by sex.**

***Broken down by age group (for example: under 20, 20–29, 30–39, 40–49, 50–59, 60–69, 70–79, 80+).**

I would be grateful if the information could be supplied in CSV format.

Suggested column headings are:

OPCS4_Code,

Year,

Age_Group,

Sex,

Number_of_Procedures,

Bed_Days

Response:

OPCS4_Code	Year	Sex	Number_of_Procedures	Bed_Days
H44.1	2016	M	<5	0
H44.1	2019	M	<5	2
H44.1	2019	M	<5	0

H44.1	2021	M	<5	1
H44.1	2021	M	<5	0
H44.1	2022	M	<5	0
H44.1	2023	M	<5	1
H44.1	2023	M	<5	0
H44.1	2024	F	<5	3
H44.1	2025	M	<5	1

OPCS4_Code	Age_Group	Sex	Number_of_Procedures	Bed_Days
H44.1	30-39yrs	M	<5	0
H44.1	20-29yrs	M	<5	2
H44.1	20-29yrs	M	<5	0
H44.1	50-59yrs	M	<5	1
H44.1	20-29yrs	M	<5	0
H44.1	50-59yrs	M	<5	0
H44.1	50-59yrs	M	<5	1
H44.1	30-39yrs	M	<5	0
H44.1	80+yrs	F	<5	3
H44.1	20-29yrs	M	<5	1

The Trust has a legal duty to protect patient confidentiality, in line with this duty the figure <5 has been provided where figures are very low. This is because of the potential risk of identification of an individual. In reaching this decision the Trust has taken into account the small geographical area which the Trust serves. In addition the Trust has taken into account the fact that all information disclosed in response to an FOI is disclosed to the 'world at large' and is published on the Trust website.

S 40 (2) (third party information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied to exempt the redacted information from disclosure. The Trust does not consider the disclosure of the redacted information to be fair to the individuals concerned as there is the potential risk of identification of an individual(s) which they would not expect, and which would therefore breach the fairness element of the first principle of the Data Protection Act 2018.

Clinical_Cost

Response:

Prior to regional implementation of the Patient Level Information and Costing System (PLICS) in 2022/23, the Trust did not produce costs at OPCS-4 procedure code level, and thus we are unable to provide the costs from before then.

Using information available from PLICS, the Trust has identified the following total costs for all relevant activity each year falling under that OPCS-4 code:

2022/23 - £173.03

2023/24 - £2,467.48

2024/25 - £2,596.10

However, please note that while these figures are available on the system and have been shared here, there are important limitations to be considered in the use and interpretation of this information:

PLICS was introduced as a pilot for the Trust's 2022/23 costing submission. As the system is in the early stages of implementation, caution should be exercised when comparing these total costs over time or drawing conclusions from the data in isolation.

PLICS costs are calculated at an individual patient level and may not correlate directly with activity figures reported from other systems or sources.

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