

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/003

Gastrostomies

- 1. How many children were operated on in Cardiff to insert gastrostomies from 01/01/2019 – 01/12/2022.**

| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | Total |
|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Total | 47 | 33 | 37 | 40 | 157 |

- 2. How many children who had these operations then went on to have issues with stomach lining coming out of the gastrostomy?**

In completing a search for the information requested, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) has confirmed that this information is not centrally recorded or collated. To retrieve the information requested would require a manual search through individual patient records and the UHB considers that this would exceed the limit set within regulations for responding to a request. The UHB has therefore relied upon the Section 12 exemption ('Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit') of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is refusing your request.

The UHB has estimated that to complete the work needed to respond to this request would exceed the time limit as set within regulations to respond to a Freedom of Information Act request. Under the Act there is an allowance of two and a half days, or 18 hours, to comply with a request and the cost limit set within the fees' regulations for this amount of work (18 hours) is £450 for the UHB. The fees regulations specify that the cost of complying with a request must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour.

- 3. Detail any known complications with gastrostomy sites for children operated on during the above timescales.**

After considering your request, the UHB believes that the data requested 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 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.

However, the UHB can confirm that, from the 157 patients referenced in response to question 1, it has been able to identify a total of 8 postoperative complications and that the majority of these relate to infections.