

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 3123

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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to cataract services.

1)

In the 12 months to January 2016 (or to the most recent month available), what was the average waiting time in days (referral to treatment time) for patients awaiting cataract surgery through Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust?

2a)

In the last 3 years, how many patients underwent cataract removal surgery at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust?

2b)

In each of the last 3 years, how many individual cataract removal procedures were performed at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust?

2c)

Does Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust operate a criteria for determining the priority/eligibility of patients for cataract surgery? If so, please specify.

2d)

Under what circumstances are NHS cataract patients ineligible for 'second eye surgery' – i.e. cataract removal from both eyes?

3a)

Are toric intraocular lenses available for patients with astigmatism undergoing cataract surgery at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust?

3b)

If yes to 3a, please list the conditions and criteria under which toric intraocular lenses are available to patients.

3c)

If yes to 3a, are toric intraocular lenses available for NHS patients with astigmatism undergoing NHS-provided cataract surgery at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust?

3d)

If yes to 3c, please list the conditions and criteria under which toric intraocular lenses are available to NHS patients.

3e)

If yes to 3a and/or 3c, how many patients have been fitted with toric intraocular lenses in the last 12 months, for which data is available?

1.

Period	Average waiting time (days)
12 months to January 2016	
December 2015	82
November 2015	82
October 2015	75
September 2015	83
August 2015	95
July 2015	88
June 2015	84
May 2015	89
April 2015	89
March 2015	85
February 2015	99
January 2015	96

2a.

Year	Number of patients
2013	3590
2014	3371
2015	3518

2b.

Year	Number of procedures
2013	4257
2014	4012
2015	4320

2c.

No.

2d.

None

3a.

Yes	No
YES	

3b. Special order only

3c.

Yes	No
YES	

3d. At the request of surgeon, special order only

3e.

	Date range	Number of patients fitted with toric lenses
All patients treated at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust	January 2015- January 2016	4
NHS patients treated 'on the NHS' at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust	As above	As above