

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5223

**Please reply to:**  
FOI Administrator  
Trust Management  
Maidstone Hospital  
Hermitage Lane  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME16 9QQ  
Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

18 March 2019

## **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 General Anaesthetics.

*You asked:*

- 1. How many general anaesthetics were administered by your NHS Trust in 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015?*
- 2. How many patients died as a result of general anaesthesia in 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015?*
- 3. How many patients were given a general anaesthetic for the purpose of carrying out a diagnostic scan/test (MRI, CT etc.) in 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015?*
- 4. How many patients died as a result of being given a general anaesthetic for the purpose of carrying out a diagnostic scan/test (MRI, CT etc.) in 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015?*
- 5. How many patients were given a general anaesthetic for the purpose of carrying out an MRI scan in 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015?*
- 6. How many patients died as a result of being given a general anaesthetic for the purpose of carrying out an MRI scan in 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015?*
- 7. How many patients were given any other form of sedation for the purpose of carrying out a diagnostic scan/test (MRI, CT etc.) in 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015?*
- 8. How many patients were given any other form of sedation for the purpose of carrying out an MRI scan in 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015?*
- 9. How many diagnostic scans/tests (MRI, CT etc.) were aborted at your NHS Trust in 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015 as a result of patients failing to attend the appointment or the process being stopped mid-way.*
- 10. How many MRI scans were aborted at your NHS Trust in 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015 as a result of patients failing to attend the appointment or the process being stopped mid-way.*

Trust response:

1.

Anaesthetic Type	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
General Anaesthetic	9270	8763	7515	7801	33349
General Anaesthetic with Epidural	18	32	39	50	139
General with Block	13	8	4	17	42
General Anaesthetic with Spinal	6	11	11	14	42
General with Local anaesthetic	1		2	11	14

2. The Trust would not be able to answer this question as any death through anaesthesia would be automatically referred to the coroner and depend on the outcome from there. We would not have death certificates with this specific information on it.

3. Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust do not give General Anaesthetics for CT or MRI examinations.

4. Not applicable

5. Not applicable

6. Not applicable

7. We do not document sedation as part of the test as it is not a requirement of our tests. We scan paediatric cases with sedation between the ages of about 4 months to 5 years, but not all children require it.

8. Please see response to Q7

9. Exam abandoned is a reason we can choose but cannot further categorise why. The radiographers do put individual remarks in the system on a patient by patient basis but we cannot filter for this so it is impossible to extract those that failed for the reasons we want from all the others. The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.

10. Exam abandoned is a reason we can choose but cannot further categorise why. The radiographers do put individual remarks in the system on a patient by patient basis but we cannot filter for this so it is impossible to extract those that failed for the reasons we want from all the others. The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.