

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5827

Please reply to:
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Trust Management
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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 Amputation operations.

You asked:

- 1. A list of every amputation operation at your hospital over the past ten years.*
- 2. The amount of cases of the above that have resulted in claims of medical negligence.*
- 3. The amount of cases of the above that have resulted in your informing your insurers of a possible claim for medical negligence.*
- 4. The details of each incident.*

Trust response:

1. In order to protect patient confidentiality the Trust has decided that further detail be refused using the limitations available under Section 10 and Section 11 of the Data Protection Act 1998. Please find below the number of amputations carried out per year and details of what was amputated.

| | |
|-------|----|
| 19/20 | 32 |
| 18/19 | 53 |
| 17/18 | 44 |
| 16/17 | 49 |
| 15/16 | 35 |
| 14/15 | 40 |
| 13/14 | 39 |
| 12/13 | 32 |
| 11/12 | 40 |
| 10/11 | 31 |

| | |
|-------|----|
| 09/10 | 60 |
|-------|----|

| | |
|-------|-----|
| Arm | 18 |
| Hand | 46 |
| Leg | 47 |
| Foot | 31 |
| Toe | 292 |
| Stump | 21 |

2. 5

3. 5

4. See following table

| Incident type | Unit | Division | Directorate | Claim date | Closed date | Sub type | Description | Outcome |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Wrong diagnosis made, Failure or delay - diagnose/delay in diagnosis | Maidstone Hospital | Surgery | Orthopaedics | 02/03/2010 | 05/04/2013 | Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts | Delayed/misdiagnosis of malignant melanoma leading to amputation of left thumb. | Claim dormant for 3 years or more |
| Failure or delay - follow-up arrangements | (INACTIVE) Kent and Sussex Hospital | Surgery | Urology, Gynae-Oncology, Breast & Vascular Surgery | 02/07/2015 | 15/08/2018 | Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts | Claim arising from the amputation of the left leg due Failure to ensure appropriate foot equipment to avoid weight bearing. Failure to refer for specialist advice. | Payment out of Court after proceedings served |
| Failure or delay - diagnose/delay in diagnosis | Tunbridge Wells Hospital | Surgery | Urology, Gynae-Oncology, Breast & Vascular Surgery | 25/10/2017 | | Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts | Alleged negligent treatment afforded to the claimant in relation to diagnosis of gangrene, resulting in the need for a below knee amputation. | |
| Failure or delay - diagnose/delay in diagnosis | Maidstone Hospital | Medicines & Emergency Care | Emergency Medicine | 19/12/2017 | 29/10/2018 | Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts | Alleged failure to identify pathogens of infected index finger and thus to treat properly. Patient ended up with amputation of part of finger. No previous request for records | Repudiated |
| Failure or delay - treatment | Tunbridge Wells Hospital | Medicines & Emergency Care | Emergency Medicine | 20/07/2018 | | Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts | Failure to arrange urgent referral to diabetic foot clinic after attendance at A&E on 31/5/18. Delay in receiving appropriate treatment resulted in ultimate amputation | |

