

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5935

**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 MRI facilities.

*You asked:*

- a) Does your Trust have a process in place for patients who are unable to fit in, or use, an MRI machine but who may need a MRI scan? If so, what is this process?*
- b) Does your Trust send patients who may need an MRI scan who meet the criteria of being unable to use your Trusts' scanners above, to other locations, for example, zoos or research facilities?*
- c) Does your Trust pay other facilities such as zoos or research facilities for the use of their MRI machines? If so, how much did you Trust pay these facilities last financial year (2019-20)?*
- d) If applicable, how many patients have needed an MRI in facilities provided in places other than your Trust last year? Please provide the location and reason for this.*

Trust response:

- a) Yes- we outsource to a wide bore scanner locally- if this is not sufficient- the Trust has a robust referral system to an open scanner in another hospital.
- b) No- we send them to established imaging facilities with wide bore or open scanners.
- c) No

d) Is this all outsourced scans or just those for patients unable to access our Trust facilities?

If as the previous questions seem to suggest it is the latter –it is in the order of about 20 – 30 per year. We send to Croydon Open scanner and local independent providers who have newer scanners with wider bores.