

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7807

Please reply to:
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25 November 2022

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 Orthotic Services.

You asked:

Section 1

1. Does your Trust/Health Board have an orthotics department?

Section 2

2.1 Which of the following best describe your Orthotic Service?

2.2 Does your Orthotic Service provide bespoke insoles to patients?

2.3 How many bespoke insole orders did your Orthotic service place in the 2021/22 financial year?

2.4 Does your Orthotic Service ever provide bespoke insoles which have been manufactured using computer-aided processes, such as addition manufacture/3D printing, or reduction manufacture/milling insoles from a digital scan?

2.5 What are the barriers for using computer aided manufacture for custom insoles in your Orthotic service? (Select all that apply by entering "X" in the left-hand column).

2.6 Which methods are used to manufacture bespoke insoles in your Orthotic service?

2.7 In your Orthotic service, what percentage of insoles were made using In-house Traditional Manufacture in the 2021/22 financial year?

2.8 In your Orthotic service, what percentage of insoles were made using In-house Computer Aided Manufacture with Reduction Manufacture in the 2021/22 financial year?

2.9 In your Orthotic service, what percentage of insoles were made using In-house Computer Aided Manufacture with Additive Manufacture (3D printed) in the 2021/22 financial year?

2.10 In your Orthotic service, what percentage of insoles were made using Outsourced Traditional Manufacture in the 2021/22 financial year?

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2.11 In your Orthotic service, what percentage of insoles were made using Outsourced Computer Aided Manufacture with Reduction Manufacture in the 2021/22 financial year?

2.12 In your Orthotic service, what percentage of insoles were made using Outsourced Computer Aided Manufacture with Additive Manufacture (3D printed) in the 2021/22 financial year?

Section 3

3.1 How long has your Orthotic service provided bespoke insoles to patients, which were produced using computer aided manufacture processes?

3.2 Does your Orthotic service ever use foam box impression casts to capture the shape of the patient's foot, when prescribing CAD/CAM insoles? (Select only one option by entering "X" in the left-hand column)

3.3 Is the negative foam box impression cast usually scanned into the CAD/CAM system, or is it filled with plaster first and then the positive model scanned? (Select only one option by entering "X" in the left-hand column)

3.2 Are the foam box impression casts usually transported to another site to be scanned into the CAD/CAM system? (Select only one option by entering "X" in the left-hand column)

3.3 Does your Orthotic service ever use slipper casts / plaster casts to capture the shape of the patient's foot, when prescribing CAD/CAM insoles?

3.4 Are the slipper casts / plaster casts usually transported to another site to be filled with plaster and scanned into the CAD/CAM system?

3.5 In your Orthotic service, which is the most common method used to capture the shape of the patient's foot, when prescribing CAD/CAM insoles

3.6 Who is usually responsible for performing the modelling/rectification of the CAD/CAM insoles that your Orthotic service provide?

3.7 In your Orthotic service, what are the reasons for using CAD/CAM insoles?

Trust response:

Section 1

1.

x Yes

Section 2

2.1

X	NHS Contracted service (This means an external contractor employs the orthotists)
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2.2

X	Yes (continue to question 2.3)
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2.3

703

2.4

X	Yes (<i>skip to question 2.6</i>)
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2.5 Not applicable

2.6

X	Outsourced Traditional. Your casts or models are sent to an external technical company who use heat moulding / draping techniques to produce the insole
X	Outsourced Computer Aided Manufacture using Reduction Manufacture. Your casts, models or scans are sent to an external technical company who mill insoles from a block of material
X	Outsourced Computer Aided Manufacture using Additive Manufacture. Your casts, models or scans are sent to an external technical company who manufacture the insoles using an additive process / "3D printer"

2.7

0%

2.8

0 %

2.9

0 %

2.10

90%

2.11

0%

2.12

10%

Section 3

3.1

OVER 25 YEARS

3.2

X	Yes (<i>continue to question 3.3</i>)
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3.3

X	Do not know – only select this option if your insoles are usually manufactured externally and you do not have knowledge of the external processes
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3.2

X	Yes - they are usually sent to another hospital or external manufacturer to be filled with plaster and/or scanned
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3.3

X	Yes (<i>continue to question 3.4</i>)
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3.4

X	Yes – they are usually sent to another hospital or external manufacturer to be filled with plaster and / or scanned
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3.5

X	Foam box impression cast
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3.6

X	The orthotist who assessed the patient
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3.7

X	CAD/CAM insoles are more easily repeatable than traditional insoles
X	Producing insoles with CAD/CAM facilitates us in running more virtual Orthotic clinics
X	Producing insoles with CAD/CAM allows us to reduce physical contact with patients