

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 8783

Please reply to:
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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 metal implant reversals.

You asked:

- 1. How many cases of metal implants being removed/reversal surgery due to rejection or systemic reaction within the last 10 years. This is to include any metal surgical implant, device or plate.*
- 2. Can you please show the difference in case numbers for male and females and if there has been an increase in numbers each year?*
- 3. Can you also tell me how many people have reported systemic reactions to metal plates/implants/devices or bodily rejections to metal plates/implants/devices in the last 10 years.*
- 4. How many of these have been recorded as Never Events and how many reported to the MRNA.*

Trust response:

Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding, the Trust has been liaising with various departments to try and identify a way of extracting the requested information.

1. The Trust has tried to find a way of identifying these specific cases. Unfortunately, we cannot identify the implant type as metal through clinical coding. We have searched our Theatre system for all operations between January 2016 and December 2023 (7 years, the farthest date we have records for) where the procedure text mentions 'explant' or 'remov' and also mentions plate/screw/nail/wire/liner/implant/girdlestone and 'metal'. This has identified 2069 operations in total.

It may be possible that this information has been entered into the patient record but in order to confirm this each patient record would need to be manually checked by a clinical staff member. 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.

2. Unable to respond to this question. Please see the response to Q1.

3. Unable to respond to this question. Please see the response to Q1.

4. The removal or reversal of a metal implant due to systemic reactions to metal plates/implants/devices or bodily rejections to metal plates/implants/devices would not be classed as a never event.