

FOI REF: 22/235

11th May 2022

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

Please note that a prosthetic knee is defined as any prosthesis which attempts to replicate the bending motion of the knee.

Clarification was sought with regard to your definition of prosthesis asking you to confirm if you mean Total Knee Replacement or a Prosthesis and confirmation was received as follows:

We are interested in a knee joint prosthesis NOT total knee replacements.

Please note that East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not provide a prosthesis service. This service is provided by Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust, contact details as follows:

UHSussex.foi@nhs.net

Topic 1: Users of prosthetic knees

- I. How many prosthetic knees have been prescribed to patients in your trust in the last financial year?
- II. How many prosthetic knees have been prescribed to patients in your trust in the four years preceding the last financial year?
- III. Please categorise answers to I and II by age group e.g., *'number of prosthetic knees prescribed to 0-4 years olds is 'x' in the last financial year'*
 - a. *Suggested age ranges (in years old) are 0-4, 4-14, 14-18, 18+.*
 - b. *If age ranges suggested in IIIa are not possible, please categorise by those aged under 14 years old and those older than 14 years old.*
 - c. *If IIIb is not possible, please categorise by paediatric versus adult prosthetic knees.*

Not applicable.

Topic 2: Proxy measures to determine users of prosthetic knees

- I. How many lower limb amputations have taken place in your trust in the last financial year?
- II. How many lower limb amputations have taken place in your trust in the four years preceding the last financial year?
- III. Please categorise answers to I and II by age group e.g., 'number of lower limb amputations in 0-4 years olds is 'x' in the last financial year'
 - a. *Suggested approach to age ranges given in 'Topic 1: question III'.*
- IV. Please categorise answers to I and II by level of amputation.
 - a. *Suggested levels of amputation are 'transtibial', 'knee disarticulation', 'transfemoral', 'hip disarticulation'.*
 - b. *Please ensure that it is possible to determine level of amputation for any given age group within the response.*
- V. Please categorise answers to I and II by diagnosis leading to amputation.
 - a. *Suggested categories could be: traumatic, congenital, infection, etc.*
 - b. *Please ensure that it is possible to determine diagnosis leading to amputation for any given age group within the response.*

Not applicable.

Topic 3: Revision surgeries

- I. How many of those in your trust who have had a lower limb amputation return for revision surgery at any point, in the last financial year?
- II. What is the duration between the first operation and the revision surgery?
 - a. *An average with justification and ranges is acceptable*

Not applicable.

Topic 4: Prosthetic service engagement

- I. How long does a patient who is prescribed a prosthetic keep their device, before a newer one is prescribed?
 - a. *An average with justification and ranges is acceptable.*
- II. Please categorise answers to I by age group.
 - a. *An average with justification and ranges is acceptable.*
 - b. *Suggested approach to age ranges given in 'Topic 1: question III'.*

Not applicable.

- III. What are the most common reasons for a new knee prosthetic being prescribed for each age group?
- IV. How many knee prostheses does a child aged under 14 years old get prescribed in any one-year period, two-year period and five-year period.
 - a. *An average with justification and ranges is acceptable.*
- V. How many knee prostheses does an adult aged over 18 years old get prescribed in any one-year period, two-year period and five-year period.
 - a. *An average with justification and ranges is acceptable.*
- VI. How many individual knee prostheses are children prescribed at any one time by your NHS trust?
 - a. *An average with justification and ranges is acceptable.*
- VII. How many individual knee prostheses are adults prescribed at any one time by your NHS trust?
 - a. *An average with justification and ranges is acceptable.*

Not applicable.

Topic 5: Prosthetic knee market data

- I. What are the most commonly prescribed prosthetic knee brands and models in adults (those users aged >18 years old).
 - a. *A ranking of the top 5 is acceptable.*
 - b. *Please also provide number of units dispensed for each brand/model.*
- II. What are the most commonly prescribed prosthetic knee brands and models in children (those users aged under 14 years old).
 - a. *A ranking of the top 5 is acceptable.*
 - c. *Please also provide number of units dispensed for each brand/model.*

Not applicable.

Topic 6: Financial enquiries

- I. How much did your trust spend on prosthetic knees in the last financial year?
- II. How much did your trust spend on prosthetic knees in the four years preceding the last financial year?
- III. Please categorise answers to I and II by age group e.g., 'Total spend on prosthetic knees prescribed to 0-4 years olds is '£x.xx in the last financial year'

Not applicable.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net