

FOI REF: 25/895

6th February 2026

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

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:

I am seeking information regarding the use of 3D printing / additive manufacturing in orthopaedic trauma within your Trust.

Please provide any recorded information you hold for the period 1 December 2015 – 1 December 2025, where applicable.

Q1 – Case Numbers:

Please provide the total number of orthopaedic trauma cases in which 3D printing was used at your Trust between 1st December 2015 and 1st December 2025, along with an annual breakdown of these cases.

[1 case. This was in 2025.](#)

Q2 – Patient Demographics:

For the cases identified above, please provide the number of patients by recorded gender (male, female, other) and the number of paediatric patients (<18 years), where recorded.

Female Patients	1
Paediatric Patients	0

Q3 – Patient-Specific vs Generic 3D Printing:

Please confirm whether your Trust currently uses 3D printing for:

a) Patient-specific models.

Permanent patient-specific implant.

b) Generic or reusable surgical tools or guides.

Permanent patient-specific implant.

c) Implants (temporary or permanent).

Permanent patient-specific implant.

Q4 – In-House Workflow:

For any 3D printing performed in-house, please indicate which stages of the workflow are carried out internally (Imaging, Segmentation, Design, Manufacture, Quality Control, Operation), according to any recorded Standard Operating Procedures or workflow documentation.

There is no 3D printing performed in-house, so there is no in-house workflow.

Q5 – Imaging Modalities:

Please list the imaging modalities used for 3D printing cases (CT, MRI, X-ray), including the approximate usage rate per case where available.

CT Planning. (There was only one case, and CT was used to plan it, so the usage rate was 100%.)

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, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net