

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: UHB 18-156**

Date 23 August 2018

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trusts response is as follows:

As previously discussed, we are still dealing with your request and thus unable to provide a full response at this time. As agreed, please find below all of the collated information so far:

**Attachment 1 - Cataract Services**

1)

1.a In the 24 months to January 2018 (or to the most recent month available), what was the average waiting time in days (referral to treatment time) and maximum waiting times for patients awaiting cataract surgery through NHS Trust?

Period	Average waiting time (days)	Maximum waiting times
12 months to January 2018	107	420
December 2017	113	288
November 2017	109	333
October 2017	91	182
September 2017	102	172
August 2017	90	295
July 2017	96	238
June 2017	121	420
May 2017	109	210
April 2017	108	246
March 2017	114	228
February 2017	85	154
January 2017	104	158

Period	Average waiting time (days)	Maximum waiting times
12 months to January 2017	96	292
December 2016	98	160
November 2016	126	292
October 2016	101	169
September 2016	95	132
August 2016	88	140
July 2016	104	153
June 2016	94	154
May 2016	116	169
April 2016	80	167
March 2016	92	252
February 2016	86	286
January 2016	83	146

**1.b**

- i. **How many patients underwent cataract removal surgery at University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust in the last 12 months for which data is available?**  
3993
- ii. **How many patients underwent cataract removal surgery at University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust in the 12 month period from January 2016 – January 2017 for which data is available?**  
3972

**1.c**

- i. **How many individual cataract removal procedures were performed at University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust during the last 12 months for which data is available?**  
4532
- ii. **How many individual cataract removal procedures were performed at University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust in in the 12 month period from January 2016 – January 2017 for which data is available.**  
4743

**Referral Criteria**

**2)**

- 2.a In the last 2 years, how many patients underwent cataract removal surgery at University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust?**

2016	2017
3972	4157

- 2.b In each of the last 2 years, how many individual cataract removal procedures were performed at University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust?**

2016	2017
4412	4743

**2.c Does University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust operate criteria for determining the priority/eligibility of patients for cataract surgery?**

Yes

**2.d If yes to question 2c), please tick all the boxes below that best describes the criteria you operate**

The discretion of commissioners	
A joint decision between CCG and NHS trust	X
Surgery is indicated for control of other co-morbidities	
Procedure of limited clinical value policy	
Visual acuity	X
In line with NICE guidelines	
Other	

**2.e Under what circumstances are NHS cataract patients ineligible for 'second eye surgery' – i.e. cataract removal from both eyes? Please tick all that apply:**

No circumstances/ unrestricted	
Determined by commissioners	
Joint decision between CCG and NHS trust	
Criteria the same as for first eye surgery	
Procedure of limited clinical value policy	
Visual acuity	X
Quality of life factors	
Anisometropia	
Other	

**Attachment 2 – Cataract Lenses Self Pay**

1)

**1.a Are toric intraocular lenses available for NHS patients with astigmatism undergoing NHS-provided cataract surgery at ?**

Yes

**1.b If yes to 1a, please tick all the conditions and criteria under which toric intraocular lenses are available to NHS patients in the table below.**

All patients with astigmatism	Awaiting information
>1 dioptries	Awaiting information
>2 dioptries	Awaiting information
>3 dioptries	Awaiting information
The discretion of the surgeon	Awaiting information
Other	

- 1.c If yes to 1a, how many patients have been fitted with toric intraocular lenses in the last 12 months, for which data is available? Please include information on:**

All patients treated at your Trust	48
NHS patients treated 'on the NHS' at your Trust	48

- 1.d If yes to 1a, how many patients have been fitted with toric intraocular lenses in the 12 month period January 2016-January 2017 for which data is available?**

All patients treated at your Trust	72
NHS patients treated 'on the NHS' at your Trust	72

### **Self –Funding**

**2)**

- 2.a Does your Trust offer patients the option of paying for cataract surgery procedures (often referred to as 'self-funding' or 'self-pay'), by which we mean cases NOT paid for by insurance companies but rather directly by individuals themselves)?**

No

**2.b**

- i. If yes to 2a, how many procedures were carried out and how many patients were treated in the last 12 months (for which data is available)?**

Number of procedures performed in the last 12 months	Number of patients treated in the last 12 months
Not applicable	Not applicable

- ii. If yes to 2a, how many procedures were carried out and how many patients were treated in the period January 2016- January 2017**

Number of procedures performed (January 2016 – January 2017)	Number of patients treated (January 2016 – January 2017)
Not applicable	Not applicable

**3)**

- 3.a If yes to 2a, what is the cost charged to patients for self-funded cataract surgery?**

Awaiting information

- 3.b. If yes to 2a, please provide your price list if available.**

Awaiting information

**4)**

- 4.a How many YAG lasers associated with cataracts have you performed over the past 3 financial years (per year)?**

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
1471	1310	1073

**4.b How much is the tariff for YAG lasering?**

£89.00 (17/18)

**4.c Is the trust under a block contract for the provision of ophthalmology products?**

No

**4.d What is the value of that contract for the last two financial years?**

Not applicable

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Trust Secretary  
University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust  
Trust Headquarters  
Marlborough Street  
Bristol  
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

**FOI Team**  
**UH Bristol NHS Foundation Trust**