

Freedom of Information Request	FOI 21-268	15 <sup>th</sup> July 2021
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**I write regarding an FOI request on the use of independent hospitals during COVID-19 and to clear the patient waiting times backlog. I would therefore be grateful if you could answer the following questions:**

- 1. Did you have an agreement with independent hospitals to cover non-COVID 19 treatments during the first year of the pandemic and, if so, which providers did you have an agreement with?**  
 Practice Plus Group  
 Emersons Green
- 2. Do you have a current agreement with independent hospitals to cover treatment backlogs following the publication of the Welsh Government's COVID-19: Looking Forward document in March and, if so, which providers do you have an agreement with?**  
 Practice Plus Group,  
 Emersons Green NHS Treatment Centre (for cataracts from July 2021)
- 3. If you have or had an agreement with independent hospitals to cover non-COVID 19, a breakdown of the costs of these agreements;**  
 £266k for 2020/21
- 4. If possible, a breakdown of the number of NHS treatments in your health board which have been placed through independent hospitals between March 2020 and March 2021 and the top three specialties; and**  
 Cataracts 300 treatments
- 5. If possible, a breakdown of the number of NHS treatments in your health board which have been placed through independent hospitals between March 2021 and June 2021 and the top three specialties.**  
 Cataracts - planned treatments of circa 270 for April to end of June 2021