

Freedom of Information Request	FOI 23-325	06 September 2023
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Your request

You requested the following:

1. Autologous cell salvage equipment availability for the Vascular unit.
2. Number of elective open infra-renal (non-complex) AAA repairs performed each year.
 - a. In whom, the number of patients who received red cell transfusions.
 - b. The number of units transfused and phase in which the transfusion occurred.
3. And finally, the number of 30day mortalities in those receiving a transfusion versus not.

Our response

1. We have had cell salvage routinely available for every elective and emergency open Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) repair since 2003. Before then, it was available on demand.
2. Our response for question 2 is provided in the table below:

	2018	2019	2020	2021	01 January 2022 – 17 July 2022*
Total number of elective infra-renal (non-complex) open AAA repairs	15	14	5	15	11

*Please note that from 18 July 2022 we no longer perform elective arterial surgery. This service is now provided by the University Hospital of Wales (UHW).

For questions 2a and 2b, we do not hold this information centrally.

To determine this information, we would have to review each patient file individually. Therefore, to comply with your request, we have established that this would exceed the appropriate costs limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which is currently £450. We estimate that it would take our staff approximately 30 hours to review. This figure is based on a timescale of 30 minutes per patient file. Our staff will have a total of 60 files to review to obtain the data which would work out at approximately 30 hours @ £25.00 per hour (cost permitted under the Act) = £750. As you may be aware, this is not an exemption which requires us to consider the application of the public interest test.

3. Please refer to our answer to questions 2a and 2b.