

Ref no: 075091019
From: Commercial
Date: 09/10/19
Subject: Hip and knee joint replacements

REQUEST

Please provide a list of (a) hip and (b) knee replacements recorded under the consultant-led referral-to-treatment category Trauma & Orthopaedics that were delivered in the following timeframes from referral to treatment for St Helens And Knowsley Hospitals NHS Trust by month from April 2018 to March 2019.

- * 18 weeks or less (i.e. greater than 0 weeks and less than or equal to 18 weeks)
- * Between 18 and 26 weeks (i.e. greater than 18 weeks and less than or equal to 26 weeks)
- * Between 26 and 52 weeks (i.e. greater than 26 weeks and less than or equal to 52 weeks)
- * More than 52 weeks (i.e. greater than 52 weeks)
- * Total

RESPONSE

The Trust implemented a new PAS system at the end of April 2018. As a result, referral-to-treatment information is only available from December 2018.

***Please refer to note at end in regards to all data including “<”.**

Hip Replacements		0-18	19-26	27-52
2018-19	Dec	8	<5	<5
	Jan	21	<5	<5
	Feb	15	7	<5
	Mar	18	7	<5

Knee Replacements		0-18	19-26	27-52
2018-19	Dec	25	<5	<5
	Jan	21	<5	7
	Feb	19	<5	<5
	Mar	21	8	<5

* **Please note:** We are unable to provide precise figures when those figures refer to individuals in volumes of 5 or less due to the risk that individuals will be re-identified, as we are required to protect their identity under the General Data Protection Regulations & Data Protection Act 2018.

In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed “lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner”.

It is the lawful aspect of this principle which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.