



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chairman: **Andrew Davies**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Tracy Myhill**

gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser
caring for each other, working together, always improving

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 17th June 2019
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 19-E-025

☎ 01639 683312

☎ 01639 648363

🖱 FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

Corporate Administration
Headquarters
1 Talbot Gateway
Baglan
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 21st May 2019. Your request is as follows:

The research study paper: Isolation of Mesenchymal Stromal Cells From Peripheral Blood of ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction Patients (Pieper et al), used samples obtained from patients at the Morrison hospital.

Specifically, patients who had experienced a myocardial infarction (STEMI patients) gave consent for their peripheral blood samples to be used, and trauma patients who had undergone orthopaedic surgery gave consent for their bone marrow to be aspirated and used for research.

The first-named author, Ina Laura Pieper, undertook her PhD studies at the University of Swansea from 2010 to 2014, so it is likely that the patients' samples were taken during this period.

The paper states the following: "This study was approved by the South West Wales local research ethics committee and all donors gave informed written consent".

The paper indicates that Prof Pallister obtained the bone marrow samples:

"In addition, the authors would like to thank Professor Ian Pallister for providing access to trauma bone marrow samples."

I request the following under FOIA:



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

1. **A copy of the application requesting ethics approval to obtain the patients' blood and bone marrow samples.**

Attached are copies of the ethical applications relating to obtaining patient blood and bone marrow. Copies attached are the notification of substantial amendments applied for in 2011. Bone marrow was an amendment to original ethics application 2003.058 (CI Prof Ian Pallister) and blood was an amendment to original REC application 10/WMW02/43 (CI Ina Pieper).

2. **A copy of the consent form that the patients signed.**

Please find a copy of the blank consent form included in the attached paperwork.

3. **The number of trauma patients who donated their bone marrow.**

There were fewer than 5 patients. We are unable to provide you with the exact number of patients as due to the low numbers, there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This information is protected by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute as unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

4. **Whether information regarding blood or tissue type from the STEMI or trauma patients was provided to the research team.**

No this was not provided.

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

