



GIG  
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WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board

Cadeirydd Dros Dro/ Interim Chair: **Emma Woollett**  
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: 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019  
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 19-I-021

01639 648363

FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Your request sought information relating to mass Spectrometry testing.

**1. Does your Health Board routinely offer Mass Spectrometry testing for Diagnostic purposes? (please answer either yes or no to this question).**

Yes- the Health Board uses mass spectrometry for identifying drugs of abuse.

**2. If you answered yes to question 1, can you please provide a list of which assays / tests are routinely run on the Mass Spectrometry system in your Health Board?**

Amphetamine confirmation, opiate confirmation, cocaine confirmation, methadone confirmation, tramadol, psychoactive drug screening, ketamine, amphetamine isomer ratios, Gamma Hydroxy Butyrate, Phencyclidine.

**3. Does your Health Board send away samples (to locations outside of your Health Board) for Mass Spectrometry testing? (please answer either yes or no to this question).**

Samples are sent away to locations outside our Health Board for testing however we do not know whether those locations use Mass Spectrometry as a methodology or not.

**4. If you answered yes to question 3, can you please list the assays / tests which are run on the samples you send away?**

This information is not held centrally. Therefore to gather information would involve



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

a manual trawl and search of records which we have estimated would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI Act as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOI Act provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger  
**Director of Corporate Governance**

