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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Mark Hackett**

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

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg. Atebir gohebiaeth Gymraeg yn y Gymraeg, ac ni fydd hyn yn arwain at oedi.
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English. Welsh language correspondence will be replied to in Welsh, and this will not lead to a delay.

Dyddiad/Date: 7th October 2021
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-H-007

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📧 FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk
Corporate Services
Headquarters
1 Talbot Gateway
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Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 9th August 2021. I apologise for the delay in responding. Your request sought information relating to endometriosis at Singleton Hospital.

1. How many patients in total are currently on a waiting list or have outstanding referrals for suspected or confirmed endometriosis at Singleton Hospital? You clarified on 19th August 2021 that you wanted inpatients and outpatients.

We are unable to provide this information as outpatient referrals are not coded. As at 31st August 2021, there are 162 patients waiting for an outpatient appointment and 304 waiting for inpatient/day case surgery with the two consultants who provide specialist endometriosis care, but please note that these numbers also include other patients on their lists that may not have a diagnosis of endometriosis.

2. What level of pre-Covid capacity is currently available for benign gynaecology surgery services including but not limited to surgery for endometriosis at Singleton Hospital?

22 Gynaecology elective operating sessions per week.

3. How many patients in total are currently waiting for surgery for benign gynaecological conditions including endometriosis at the Singleton Hospital and how long have they been waiting?

This is likely to include but not be limited to procedures such as diagnostic laparoscopy and endoscopic surgery for endometriosis.



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

Please specify how many patients are waiting for surgery for the following lengths of time:

Inpatients waiting at 31st August 2021

Band	Patients
<12 weeks	133
>12 weeks	1210
>26 weeks	1081
>39 weeks	989
>52 weeks	865
>74 weeks	722
>104 weeks	270
Total	1343

- 4. How many of the patients currently waiting for surgery for benign gynaecological conditions like endometriosis at Singleton Hospital have been classified as priority three and how many have been classified as priority four? If it is possible to split out endometriosis (primary and secondary cause) from other benign gynaecological conditions, we would appreciate that.**

The process of prioritising to 3 or 4 is an ongoing process. The majority of Endometriosis patients are priority 3, second highest proportion are priority 2 and few are priority 4 (particularly if symptoms are not severe or loss of fertility potential is not an issue).

- 5. Have all patients currently waiting for surgery for endometriosis (primary or secondary cause) at the Singleton Hospital been (a) contacted and informed of planned service recommencement and (b) been given a new date for their procedure?**

No

- 6. How many tertiary endometriosis patients are currently on a waiting list or have outstanding referrals at the Singleton Hospital? By tertiary care, we mean those patients requiring specialist care, such as complex surgery for deep endometriosis which involves the bowel or bladder provided by a specialist endometriosis centre, not general gynaecology.**

- **No of tertiary patients by referring Health Board* currently on a waiting list**
- **No of tertiary patients by referring Health Board currently with outstanding referrals**

This is likely to include patients referred from other Health Boards given that the Singleton Hospital is one of only two BSGE (British Society of Gynaecology Endoscopy) Endometriosis Specialist Centres in Wales along with University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff.



I can confirm that this information is not held centrally, however we estimate this is approximately less than 10 patients.

7. What was the capacity of the Singleton Hospital for tertiary endometriosis patients prior to the pandemic?

No specific capacity was identified for tertiary patients.

8. Is the Singleton Hospital accepting referrals from Health Boards other than Swansea Bay University Health Board for patients with endometriosis requiring tertiary care? We ask this because we have heard of incidents where those with endometriosis requiring specialist (tertiary) care from outside the Swansea Bay University Health Board area have been told they cannot be referred because they are "out of the area".

Swansea Bay Health Board always has and continues to accept referrals from all other Health Boards provided the proper referral and approval procedures were followed. As a non-accredited centre this is on an ad hoc basis.

9. As Singleton Hospital is currently a provisional BSGE Endometriosis Specialist Centre, we would like to know what progress has been made in relation to becoming a fully accredited BSGE centre? For example, do you have agreements with the relevant named clinicians needed such as a colorectal surgeon, urology and pain management specialists? Full requirements are listed here: <https://www.bsge.org.uk/requirements-to-be-a-bsge-accredited-centre>

The provisional centre does have agreement with all the relevant specialities with named clinicians as per BSGE recommendations.

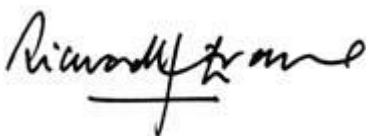
We anticipate being able to meet the other requirements by the end of this calendar year.

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



On behalf of



Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

