



GIG  
CYMRU  
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WALES

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 ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021  
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-C-018

☎ 01639 648363

✉ [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto: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 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Your request sought information relating to knee replacements.

**During this Covid Pandemic, in the last 11 months, could you please tell me if any NHS knee replacement surgery has been ongoing the whole time in the Swansea Bay University Health Board during this period?**

At the beginning of the pandemic, Swansea Bay Health Board (SBUHB) stopped all planned Orthopaedic surgery. Total knee replacement (TKR) procedures fall under the umbrella of Orthopaedic surgery, but this also includes other procedures such as hip replacements.

Surgery recommenced in a small numbers in September 2020 for a short period of time. It was again stopped around the Christmas period due to the increasing cases of COVID-19.

In February 2021, SBUHB began restarting Orthopaedic surgery in Neath Port Talbot Hospital for category 2 patients only. Patients are categorised according to clinical urgency using the national categorisation system issued by the Royal College of Surgeons (please see attached).

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).



**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

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pam Wenger', written over a light blue circular stamp.

On behalf of

Pam Wenger  
**Director of Corporate Governance**

