

Our Ref: ID 1527

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
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Re: Freedom of Information Request – Limb Fractures

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which was received into this office on 8th October 2019.

You Asked for:

I would like to know

1. The number/quantity of casts applied to fractured or broken limbs in your Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area.
 - a. Ideally this data would be split out by limb type and age (adult/child).
2. The annual cost to your CCG of Plastering fractured/broken limbs to include materials and labour.
3. The annual cost to your CCG of Re-plastering fractured/broken limbs to include materials and labour – where the original cast had to be replaced/failed for various reasons.
 - a. If there is no specific cost identified for re-plastering, I would like to know the percentage of casts that have to be replaced if this is recorded instead.

I would like the data for as many years in the last decade 2008 to 2018 as you can provide it please.

Our Response:

Please see the attached spreadsheet for further information.

Please note: We have generated the activity as the number of procedures by financial year where the activity was commissioned by NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) such as an application of a plaster cast, change of plaster cast or removal of a plaster cast.

Procedures are only counted once so if a patient had more than one procedure, then subsequent secondary procedures were not recorded.

The process of NHS funding means that only the predominant procedure carried out is recorded, therefore, we have included the cost element for all of the procedures that had a primary procedure cost.

A clinical coding expert has also informed us that codes for plaster cast procedures are only used if a patient did not undergo other more complex methods of fixation of fractures as well. It is possible that more plaster cast procedures were carried out but were superseded within the spell by other procedures like pinning or screwing the fracture. We cannot see such superseded

activity so the activity submitted here is likely an underestimate. If you require more specific data, may I suggest that you directly contact the provider trusts.

We hope this information is useful, however if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Corporate Affairs Team (contact details at the top of this letter)

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