

10 August 2023

Pain relief during IUD insertion and removal

1.) How many IUD's were fitted by the Belfast Trust in 2020, 2021 and 2022?

Year	Number of IUDs fitted
2020	838
2021	1701
2022	2375

2.) Is pain relief offered to all patients or can it be something that can be requested? (Not including the recommendation of paracetamol/ibuprofen prior to the appointment)

Local anaesthetic gel spray or cervical block is offered in the outpatient setting.

3.) If this can be provided, What pain relief is available and can be administered by the medical professional completing the procedure?

Local anaesthetic gel/ spray, cervical nerve blocking injectable medication is available

4.) Can medical professionals completing the procedure provide anti-anxiety medication to women who are experiencing severe anxiety surrounding the procedure?

The medical team are unable to prescribe benzodiazepines. The chaperoning staff use "vocal local/verbal Valium" as part of their role and support, reassure and act as the patient advocate.