

16 December 2025

Perforated Appendicitis with PRES for patients at RBHSC

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide the following aggregate, non-identifying information for the period 01st June 2014 to 01st June 2024 inclusive, for patients aged 0–16 years treated at the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children (RBHSC):

- 1. The number of patients diagnosed with perforated appendicitis (please state the ICD/clinical codes or local diagnosis fields used, if possible).**
- 2. Of those patients, the number who were also diagnosed with Posterior Reversible Encephalopathy Syndrome (PRES) during the same admission or within 30 days (please state criteria used to identify PRES — e.g. ICD codes, neurology/ radiology report review).**
- 3. Please confirm whether any individual case counts were suppressed for disclosure control and, if so, why.**

To undertake this exercise would necessitate a manual trawl through records which would involve a significant number of hours. This would exceed the costs limit specified in the FOI act.

We estimate that compliance with this element of the request for information would exceed the appropriate costs limit. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000, the limit has been specified as £450 and represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.