

19 March 2026

Neurology Involvement (Inpatient)

For patients aged 0–16 years treated at Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children during this period: 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024 (calendar year only).

Perforated Appendicitis Cohort

- 1. Please provide the number of patients coded with perforated appendicitis using routinely applied ICD-10 codes (for example K35.1 or equivalent complication codes used locally).**

Figures in relation to perforated appendicitis were previously provided for the internal FOI review FOI 35819 which linked to FOI 35276

- 2. Neurology Involvement (Inpatient)**

To obtain information to inform a response would involve identifying those patients who have been recorded as having a perforated appendix and then manually looking at individual patient records to establish if there was a clinical referral to neurology required. This would require more than 18 hours' work.

Belfast Trust considers that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'Appropriate Limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information Act under Section 12. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified as £450 for public authorities such as Belfast Trust. This represents the cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.

- 3. Of those patients identified at Question 1, please provide the number who had:**
 - (a) An inpatient consultation recorded under Neurology specialty coding; or a neurology specialty code recorded in any consultation/specialty field within the same admission episode.**

This should be based solely on searchable specialty or consultation fields within existing electronic systems.

- (b) Neurology Outpatient Follow-Up (If Electronically Searchable) If retrievable without manual review:**

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(c) Of those same patients, please provide the number who attended a Neurology outpatient clinic within 6 months of discharge, where clinic specialty is recorded as Neurology.

As above