

29 June 2026

Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy Instrument Trays

I am conducting a project examining variation in instrument tray composition for laparoscopic cholecystectomy procedures across NHS organisations, with a view to identifying opportunities for standardisation, efficiency improvement, and environmental sustainability.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would be grateful if you could provide the following information relating to laparoscopic cholecystectomy procedures performed within your Trust.

1. Procedure Volume

- a) **How many laparoscopic cholecystectomy procedures were performed within your Trust during the most recently completed financial year?**

647 cases completed within General Surgery and less than 5 cases within Paediatrics.

2. Instrument Tray Composition

- a) **Please provide the current instrument inventory list(s) for the standard laparoscopic cholecystectomy instrument tray(s) used within your Trust.**

The Trust doesn't have a standard lap cholecystectomy tray per, there are many in circulation. Please see attached.

- b) **If more than one laparoscopic cholecystectomy tray configuration is used within the Trust, please provide the inventory list for each version.**

Please see attached

- c) **Does the Trust use surgeon preference cards or procedure-specific pick lists for laparoscopic cholecystectomy? If yes, please provide any standard template used**

Please see attached

Note: Due to the large number of attachments these can be sent on request.

- d) **Please indicate whether the inventory lists supplied represent:**

- **A standardised Trust-wide tray;**
- **Site-specific trays; or**
- **Consultant/surgeon-specific trays.**

10 different tray lists exist. There are site specific trays across RGH, MIH, BCH and RBHSC. There is one RBHSC tray identified with a consultant's name

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3. Tray Standardisation

a) Does the Trust have a formal policy, guideline, or standard operating procedure relating to laparoscopic cholecystectomy instrument tray composition?

If yes, please provide a copy.

No

b) Has the Trust undertaken any review, rationalisation, optimisation, or redesign of laparoscopic cholecystectomy instrument trays within the last five years?

If yes, please provide any reports, summaries, business cases, or recommendations that are held.

Currently under review

4. Reusable and Disposable Instrumentation

a) Does the Trust routinely use reusable laparoscopic instruments for laparoscopic cholecystectomy?

Yes

b) Does the Trust routinely use disposable single-use laparoscopic instruments for laparoscopic cholecystectomy?

Only 1 or 2 products

c) Please provide any existing inventory or documentation identifying which components are reusable and which are single-use.

Single use – scissors & forceps

d) Does the Trust routinely use disposable/single-use ports or reusable ports? Single use ports

5. Sterilisation and Tray Processing

a) How many instrument trays or sterilisation containers are routinely opened for a standard laparoscopic cholecystectomy procedure?

2 trays – 1 lightlead, 1 camera

b) Are trays supplied in:

- Reusable rigid sterilisation containers;
- Sterile wrap systems; or
- Both?

Both. Reusable rigid sterilisation containers are not used, sterile wrap systems only

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6. Sustainability Initiatives

a) Has the Trust undertaken any sustainability-related initiative specifically relating to surgical instrument trays, reusable instrumentation, waste reduction, or operating theatre environmental impact within the last five years?

No

If yes, please provide any reports, presentations, business cases, or policies held.

7. Photographic or Layout Documentation

a) Does the Trust hold a tray map, instrument layout guide, tray photograph, or equivalent document for laparoscopic cholecystectomy trays?

If yes, please provide a copy.

There are images of 5 of the 10 tray configurations. These have been labelled in the attachments to coincide with the tray list numbers

8. Sterilisation and Reprocessing Costs

a) Does the Trust hold information on the cost of sterilisation, decontamination, reprocessing, or preparation of laparoscopic cholecystectomy instrument trays?

Yes

If yes, please provide:

- **The most recent estimated cost per tray sterilisation/reprocessing cycle.**

Consumable cost = £13.94

- **The methodology used to calculate this cost.**

Tabulation of consumables and process factors

- **The date of the most recent calculation.**

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Where information is not held in the exact format requested, I would be grateful for any equivalent recorded information that addresses the same topic.