

23 July 2026

OPCS-4 procedures carried out in your hospitals

I am seeking information relating to procedures recorded under OPCS-4 code H44.1.

Please provide, for each financial year (or calendar year if more readily available) from 2016 to 2026, the following:

1. The number of H44.1 procedures performed.
2. The total number of bed days associated with patients undergoing H44.1 procedures.

Questions 1 & 2

2026 not currently available due to delay in clinical coding coverage

OPCS4 Code	Year of Admission	Age Group	Sex	Procedures	Beddays
H44.1	Y2017	30-39	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2018	Under 20	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2019	20-29	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2019	30-39	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2019	50-59	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2020	Under 20	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2020	60-69	F	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2021	Under 20	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2021	Under 20	F	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2021	Under 20	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2021	20-29	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2022	Under 20	M	<5	74
H44.1	Y2022	20-29	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2022	40-49	M	<5	<5

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H44.1	Y2023	40-49	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2024	30-39	F	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2024	40-49	M	<5	10
H44.1	Y2024	60-69	M	<5	26
H44.1	Y2025	Under 20	M	<5	<5
H44.1	Y2025	30-39	F	<5	46
H44.1	Y2025	40-49	M	<5	<5

We are unable to provide an exact figure where numbers are very low. To provide this level of information would reduce numbers to discoverable limits where the patients could be identifiable.

This is exempt from release under section 40(2) Personal Information relating to a third party, of the FOI Act.

Disclosure would constitute a breach of the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018.

3. The total clinical cost associated with these procedures, where recorded and available.

If possible, please provide the above data:

***Broken down by sex.**

***Broken down by age group (for example: under 20, 20–29, 30–39, 40–49, 50–59, 60–69, 70–79, 80+).**

I would be grateful if the information could be supplied in CSV format.

Suggested column headings are:

OPCS4_Code,

Year,

Age_Group,

Sex,

Number_of_Procedures,

Bed_Days,

Clinical_Cost

Prior to regional implementation of the Patient Level Information and Costing System (PLICS) in 2022/23, the Trust did not produce costs at OPCS-4 procedure code level, and thus we are unable to provide the costs from before then.

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Using information available from PLICS, the Trust has identified the following total costs for all relevant activity each year falling under that OPCS-4 code:

- 2022/23 - £8,808
- 2023/24 - £9,192
- 2024/25 - £15,131

However, please note that while these figures are available on the system and have been shared here, there are important limitations to be considered in the use and interpretation of this information:

- PLICS was introduced as a pilot for the Trust's 2022/23 costing submission. As the system is in the early stages of implementation, caution should be exercised when comparing these total costs over time or drawing conclusions from the data in isolation. Whilst progress is continually being made on the quality of PLICS outputs, it remains the case regionally that no information at a deeper level than NI average costs is considered robust enough to be used / shared generally.
- The Trust would caution against attempting to derive a unit cost by dividing the total costs shown above by activity volumes. PLICS costs are calculated at an individual patient level and may not correlate directly with activity figures reported from other systems or sources.
- The figures represent fully absorbed costs and therefore include a proportionate allocation of Trust overheads.
- We are unable to provide this information by age, sex etc.

Note: If the exact data requested is not held, please provide any closely related information that is available.