

11 January 2023

Spend on Diabetic Treatment and Wound Dressing

I was hoping you could provide me with some information regarding the following:

- **Spend on wound dressing in diabetic clinics (each year for the last 10 years including 2022 so far)**

Belfast Trust is unable to provide the information requested as this is not held centrally. Spend on dressings would not be categorised with regard to what each dressing was used for or in what programme of care.

The 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.

- **Spend on treatment of diabetic ulcers / foot disease / venous leg ulcers (each year for the last 10 years including 2022 so far)**

As above, Belfast Trust is unable to provide the information requested as this is not held centrally.

- **How many patients treated annually for each of the above (each year for the last 10 years including 2022 so far)**

The table below shows the number of patients treated each year for diabetic ulcers / foot disease and venous leg ulcers by Belfast Trust:

We are only able to identify patients treated as an Inpatient or Daycase. We do not capture hospital diagnostic information in relation to Outpatient attendances on our Patient Administration System.

Regarding the community services, the information is not all contained in one place and is not necessarily identifiable and therefore the community information cannot be provided as to do so would be above the 'Appropriate Limit' defined by the FOI Act.

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Hospital Attendees

Year	No of Patients
2012/13	270
2013/14	334
2014/05	229
2015/16	247
2016/17	219
2017/18	229
2018/19	234
2019/20	253
2020/21	301
2021/22	407
Apr22-Sep22	178

We have a nil return from our Paediatric Diabetes services as they have not treated any paediatric patients for wound dressing / diabetic ulcers / foot disease / venous leg ulcers. These would not be typical diabetic complications seen in children.