



ATISN 18533

25 May 2023

Dear ,

ATISN 18533 – Hernia Operations

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 24 May 2023 relating to hernia operations. You requested the following:

- *information on how many hernia repairs were carried out by Cwm Taf in the last 5 years.*
- *information on how many mesh removals by Cwm Taf have taken place because of infections in the last 5 years.*
- *information on what data is kept on complications and recurrence of hernias by Cwm Taf in the last 5 years.*
- *information on the different types of meshes purchased and the name of the manufacturer for the last 5 years.*
- *information on how many hernia operations were carried out by Cwm Taf in the last 5 years.*
- *information on how many of the above operations had Mesh repairs and how many had non Mesh repairs.*
- *information on how many hernia mesh surgeries failed in the last 5 years (carried out by Cwm Taf)*
- *information on how many non hernia mesh surgeries failed in the last 5 years (carried out by Cwm Taf)*

Response

Welsh Government does not hold the information you have requested. This information would be available from the health board. I have provided their contact points below should you wish to contact them directly on this matter:

Cwm Taf Morgannwg

Freedom of Information Officer

Cwm Taf Health Board

Ynysmeurig House

Navigation Park

Abercynon, CF45 4SN

E-mail: freedomofinformation@wales.nhs.uk

Next Steps

The request you sent me contains personal information about you - for example, your name and address. The Welsh Government will be the data processor for this information and, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation, it will be processed in order to fulfil our public task and meet our legal obligations under the Act to provide you with a response.

We will only use this personal information to deal with your request and any matters which arise as a result of it. We will keep your personal information and all other information relating to your request for three years from the date on which your request is finally closed. Your personal information will then be disposed of securely.

Under data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data we hold about you and to access it
- to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection

For further information about the information which the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you wish to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
CARDIFF
CF10 3NQ
Email: DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.of.information@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,

Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process

Yours sincerely,