

# Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

Suite 9  
Buckingham Row  
Brick Kiln Lane  
Wigan  
WN1 1XX

Email: [foi@wwl.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@wwl.nhs.uk)

Web: [www.wwl.nhs.uk](http://www.wwl.nhs.uk)

Ref: FOI/2025/10777

Date Received: 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025

Response Due: 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold part of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

**I would like to make a Freedom of Information request for the following information.**

**1. How many patients started IVF at your trust for each of the following years 2019,2020,2021,2022,2023,2024,2025 year to date.**

- **Can I have this broken down by age group?**
- **Can I have a breakdown of how many patients received one, two, three or four cycles.**  
The Trust is unable to provide this information as the information is not held in a reportable or structured format in our central system and records would have to be reviewed manually which would exceed the appropriate time limit. The Trust has to take into account the cost attributable to the time spent in locating, retrieving, and collating the information. We have therefore applied exemption Section 12 (4) (b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000-beyond appropriate limit. The appropriate limit is set at £450.00 (18hrs @ £25 per hour).

**2. How many patients started IVF privately (but paid for by the trust) for each of the following years 2019,2020,2021,2022,2023,2024,2025 year to date. Can I have this broken down by age group?**

- **Can I have a list of all private providers used.**  
The Trust satellites with Manchester Fertility (private) and Hewitt Fertility (Liverpool Women's NHSFT and in Knutsford).
- **Can I have an average cost of private treatment per patient.**  
The average cost of an IVF cycle is £4,200 plus medications, which range between £600 and £1,600.

**3. For the patients treated at your NHS hospital can I have a record of how many service users resulted in a birth since 2019 - can I have this broken down by age.**

The Trust is unable to provide this information as the information is not held in a reportable or structured format in our central system and records would have to be reviewed manually which would exceed the appropriate time limit. The Trust has to take into account the cost attributable to the time spent in locating, retrieving, and collating the information. We have therefore applied exemption Section 12 (4) (b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000-beyond appropriate limit. The appropriate limit is set at £450.00 (18hrs @ £25 per hour).

**4. For the patients treated privately can I have a record of how many service users resulted in a birth since 2019 - can I have this broken down by age.**

The Trust is unable to provide this information as the information is not held in a reportable or structured format in our central system and records would have to be reviewed manually which would exceed the appropriate time limit. The Trust has to take into account the cost attributable to the time spent in locating, retrieving, and collating the information. We have therefore applied exemption Section 12 (4) (b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000-beyond appropriate limit. The appropriate limit is set at £450.00 (18hrs @ £25 per hour).

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Sanjay Arya  
Medical Director

**PLEASE NOTE:**

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111