



**Wrightington, Wigan and
Leigh Teaching Hospitals**
NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Ref: FOI/2025/10999

Date Received: 11th August 2025

Response Due: 9th September 2025

Date: 1st September 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 11th August 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 am submitting this Freedom of Information request to obtain details regarding the NHS Organisation's Radiology Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS), associated diagnostic reporting processes, and departmental statistics.

Please Note: Definitions of each solution type are provided at the bottom of this request.

1. *** PACS – Information Request *******

- a. **Who is the current supplier of the NHS Organisation's PACS solution?**
Sectra.
- b. **What is the name of the current PACS system in use?**
Sectra IDS7 & Uniview.
- c. **When did the current PACS contract commence?**
2021.
- d. **When is the current PACS contract due to expire?**
2031.
- e. **Are there any contract extensions available under the current agreement?**
Yes.

- f. What is the total value of the current PACS contract?**
£30m split between 10 Trusts within GM over a 10-year term.
- g. When is the next anticipated year of public procurement?**
This is not yet known.
- h. Is the NHS Organisation's PACS part of a wider centralised radiology network (e.g. national solution or multi-NHS Organisation collaborative)? If so, can you please provide the name/identity of the collaborative solution?**
Yes, Greater Manchester Imaging Network.

2. *** Diagnostic Reporting *******

- a. Is Radiology Diagnostic Reporting performed within the Radiology Information System (RIS), the NHS Organisation's Electronic Patient Record (EPR), or the PACS solution?**
RIS.

3. *** PACS – Archive Stats *******

- a. What is the total number of radiology studies currently stored in the PACS archive?**
This information is not centrally recorded.

4. *** NHS Organisations Departmental Statistics*******

- a. How many radiology studies are undertaken by the NHS Organisation per annum?**
366,110 for 2024-25.
- b. How many radiology studies are distributed via the Sectra Image Exchange Portal (IEP) annually?**
This information is not centrally recorded.

******* Definitions *******

Electronic Patient Record (EPR)

An Electronic Patient Record (EPR) is a digital version of a patient's medical history maintained by a healthcare provider. It includes clinical data such as diagnoses, medications, treatment plans, immunisation dates, allergies, radiology images, and laboratory test results. EPR systems are designed to streamline clinical workflows, improve patient safety, and enable secure sharing of information across departments and care settings.

Radiology Information System (RIS)

A RIS is a specialised software system designed to manage the workflow and operations of a radiology department. It supports scheduling of imaging appointments, tracking of radiology imaging orders, storing and distributing reports, and managing patient data. RIS is often integrated with PACS and Electronic Patient Records (EPR) to ensure efficient and accurate diagnostic imaging services.

Picture Archive Communications System (PACS)

A PACS is a medical imaging technology used for storing, retrieving, presenting, and sharing images produced by various radiology modalities such as X-ray, CT, MRI, and ultrasound. It eliminates the need for physical film and enables secure, digital access to images and reports across departments and locations. PACS is typically integrated with RIS and Electronic Patient Records (EPR), supporting efficient diagnostic workflows and timely clinical decision-making.

Image Exchange Portal (IEP)

The Image Exchange Portal (IEP) is a secure platform used by NHS Organisations to share radiology images and reports electronically between NHS Organisations and other healthcare providers. It facilitates timely access to imaging data for clinical consultations, second opinions, and patient transfers, reducing the need for repeat scans and improving continuity of care.

Diagnostic Reporting in Radiology

Diagnostic reporting in radiology refers to the process by which radiologists interpret medical images, such as X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, and ultrasounds, and generate structured clinical reports detailing their findings. These reports provide essential information for diagnosing conditions, guiding treatment decisions, and monitoring patient progress. Diagnostic reporting is typically supported by RIS and PACS systems, ensuring timely access, secure storage, and efficient communication of imaging results across clinical teams.

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,



Hazel Hendriksen
Divisional Director of Operations for Specialist Services

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