



# 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/2023/9388

Date Received: 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Response Due: 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we partially hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

- 1. The number of MRI scans performed for the following,**
  - Central Nervous System
  - Brain
  - Spine
  - Other Surrounding Tissue
  - Whole Body
  - Head & Neck
  - Thorax, including Breast
  - Abdomen, including Liver & Kidneys
  - Pelvis, including Prostate
  - Musculo-skeletal system
  - Other
  - Cardiac
  - Angiography

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Total
Central Nervous System	0	0	0	0	0	0

<b>Brain</b>	2704	3037	2870	3213	3694	15515
<b>Spine</b>	4590	4841	6909	6459	8411	31210
<b>Other Surrounding Tissue</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Whole Body</b>	<5	0	0	0	0	<5
<b>Head &amp; Neck</b>	1403	1716	1885	1554	2069	8627
<b>Thorax, including Breast</b>	1044	1189	1327	1161	1397	6118
<b>Abdomen, including Liver &amp; Kidneys</b>	1805	1717	1795	1767	2130	9214
<b>Pelvis, including Prostate</b>	1394	1300	1974	1659	2407	8734
<b>Musculo-skeletal system</b>	5981	6231	7399	5395	7008	32014
<b>Other</b>	56	102	106	59	122	445
<b>Cardiac</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Angiography</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18981</b>	<b>20133</b>	<b>24265</b>	<b>21267</b>	<b>27238</b>	<b>111881</b>

**Refusal Notice: Sec 40(2) Personal Information**

The Trust has a policy of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

To disclose this information would:

- a) Contravene the Data Protection Act principles in that it would amount to unfair and possibly unlawful processing, as there was a legitimate expectation by the third parties that this information would remain confidential, and
- b) Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

**2. The number of MRI scans for the above listed investigations using a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent(s)**

<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>Total</b>
1502	1518	2079	2024	2573	9696

**3. The average number of doses of a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent(s) per scan**

1 dose per exam but this may be administered as an infusion or as a stat bolus. Once contrast has been administered it cannot usually be administered again during the same examination.

**4. The number of rescans, which are performed due to the outcome of a poor-quality image when using a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent in the initial scan.**

This data is not recorded.

**5. The number of rereports required due to the outcome of a poor-quality image when using a macrocyclic gadolinium contrast agent in the initial scan.**

This data is not recorded. However, please note all MR scans must be reported regardless of the diagnostic quality.

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  
Director of Operations and Performance

**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