



Ref: FOI-160 -202425-Clinical Data and Processes- Trans cervical ablation

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 3rd June 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Gynae numbers

On 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 we contacted you via email with the following:  
To continue with your request we require clarification the following;  
Following clinical coding comments we have googled this procedure and “Sonata” seems to refer to a specific system - The Sonata System - Gynesonics  
Transcervical ultrasound-guided radiofrequency ablation uterine fibroids (Sonata®) : University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust ([uclh.nhs.uk](http://uclh.nhs.uk))

Can we clarify with you what this procedure is? Are you after the number of procedures undertaken by this specific method? and if the OPCS coding supplied by our clinical coding team is the national clinical coding for this procedure.

On 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 you replied via email with:

*‘Yes it’s Sonata from Gynaesonics. I would like to know how many patients have been treated by this device at your trust.*

*I have no understanding of what OPCS coding is ‘*

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

**Q1 Please can you tell me the total amount of patients treated by the following procedure between May 2023 and May 2024 or to the nearest date you have the information available.**

**Procedure :  
Sonata - Transcervical Fibroid ablation (NOT endometrial ablation)**

A1 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI

Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being <10  
*This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.*

<10 patients treated between May 23 and May 24.

\*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

***UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.***

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

Yours,





University Hospitals  
of North Midlands  
NHS Trust

**Rachel Montinaro**  
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records

