

Ref. No: 2487
Date: 01/04/26
Subject: Monthly Breakdown of Cardiac MRI Referrals

REQUEST

please provide the following data for the period 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2022:

1. Monthly Breakdown: A month-by-month count of the number of patients referred by the MWL Cardiology Department to external providers for Cardiac MRI (CMR) scans.
2. Clinical Indication: Within each of those monthly totals, please specify how many referrals were made with a primary clinical indication of Suspected Myocarditis (ICD-10 code I40).

Please provide this data specifically for the Legacy STHK (St Helens and Knowsley) sites, as your previous response indicated these records are held centrally.

RESPONSE

1. Monthly Breakdown: A month-by-month count of the number of patients referred by the MWL Cardiology Department to external providers for Cardiac MRI (CMR) scans.

JAN 21	16
FEB 21	14
MARCH 21	18
APRIL 21	21
MAY 21	15
JUNE 21	14
JULY 21	17

AUG 21	12
SEPT 21	19
OCT 21	15
NOV 21	27
DEC 21	11
JAN 22	13
FEB 22	11
MARCH 22	17
APRIL 22	21
MAY 22	18
JUNE 22	19
JULY 22	29
AUG 22	23
SEPT 22	29
OCT 22	28
NOV 22	23
DEC 22	14

2. Clinical Indication: Within each of those monthly totals, please specify how many referrals were made with a primary clinical indication of Suspected Myocarditis (ICD-10 code I40).

Section 12: cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit

Following a thorough assessment, we regret to inform you that Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust is unable to comply with your request, as doing so would exceed the cost limit set out under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 12 states that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of doing so would exceed the appropriate limit, which is currently set at £450 for NHS organisations. This equates to 18 hours of staff time, calculated at a standard rate of £25 per hour, as defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

In this case, fulfilling your request would require checking individual patients records and the Trust has estimated this time to be in excess of 505 hours. This involves locating, retrieving, and extracting the relevant information. This exceeds the 18-hour threshold, even with reasonable efforts to narrow the scope.

We are therefore applying Section 12 of the Act and will not be proceeding with the request in its current form.