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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**  
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Mark Hackett**

**gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser**  
**caring for each other, working together, always improving**

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021  
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-C-019

01639 648363

FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[REDACTED]

Corporate Services  
Headquarters  
1 Talbot Gateway  
Baglan  
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Your request sought information relating to bariatric surgery.

Please note that Swansea Bay University Health Board host the Level 4 Bariatric Service for the whole of Wales. The information we have provided is for all referrals we receive from all Health Boards in Wales.

All bariatric referrals to our Level 4 service must come via a Level 3 "gatekeeping" service. The Level 3 gatekeeping service are clinical professionals within each individual Health Board. They assess a certain level of support has been provided and thresholds met by patients before they are referred onwards to the Level 4 service (surgery).

**Since April 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021;**

**1. How many people have been referred for bariatric surgery?**

877

**2. How many people that have been referred met the commissioning criteria to be accepted for surgery?**

647 (approximately 63%)

**3. How many people that met these criteria were actually referred to and offered surgery?**

237 treated as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

#### 4. How many people that met these criteria were refused surgery?

72

#### 5. What reasons are given for refusal of the surgery?

- Lack of Level 3 gatekeeping service local to the patient to properly assess suitability for surgery prior to referral. These patients are referred back to Level 3 for more robust assessment.
- Lack of capacity in the Level 4 service
- Age of Patient
- Significant mental health issues
- Eating disorders

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



On behalf of

Pam Wenger

**Director of Corporate Governance**

