

# Request title: Pain Management Appointment Statistics 2010-2015

---

Date of Response: 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016

Further to your Freedom of Information request, the Trust has answered your questions in the order they appear in your request.

## Request and reply

I am contacting you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from the relevant department, directorate or division in your Trust that has responsibility for delivering Pain Medicine or Chronic Pain Services, including the finance and performance aspects of the service.

My purpose in making this request is to research the variations (if any) in how this figure is being calculated as the nature of Chronic Pain services run within a multidisciplinary team means that follow ups are counted very differently in different units, for example some units count attendance at a pain management program over several weeks as a therapy and do not include it in the new:fu ratio others count every attendance.

## FOI questions.

1. The definition of calculation used for new to follow up ratios for chronic pain referrals. The way a New and Follow Up appointment is defined is a national standard relating to outpatient appointments, not admissions. Definitions can be found at <http://www.datadictionary.nhs.uk/>
2. The data for new to follow up for chronic pain referrals for your trust for the years April 2010 to April 2015

Please see the table below:

YEAR	NEW	F/U
1011	979	1233
1112	1095	1108
1213	1208	1051
1314	1474	1130
1415	1470	1181
1516	1433	1206

Please note: The above figures are the updated and complete figures based on Outpatient Attendances under the specialty Anaesthetics and therefore the above figures will also include appointments not related to pain. It is not possible to separate these.

3. Is the calculation used for new and follow-up in Chronic Pain a local or national definition?  
See answer to Q1.
4. Can you provide the wording of the definition used?  
See answer to Q1.
5. Does the New to follow up ratio calculation that is used by your organisation for Chronic Pain also apply to other specialties?  
See answer to Q1.
6. If no - please explain the differences in the calculations.  
See answer to Q1.

