

Date: 06/12/2016

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/013135 – Breast lesions

1. How many benign breast lesions has your Trust diagnosed per annum in the last three years?

We do not electronically record the source of a diagnosis, only that a patient has a particular diagnosis during treatment. We use the ICD-10 classification system for clinical coding of diagnoses and this does not support clear identification of lesions as being benign. ICD-10 code 'D24X' signifies 'benign neoplasm of breast' but this will not cover all lesions diagnosed.

2. How many benign breast lesions have been removed surgically per annum within your Trust in the last three years?

We use the ICD-10 classification system for clinical coding of diagnoses and this does not support clear identification of lesions as being benign. ICD-10 code 'D24X' signifies 'benign neoplasm of breast' but this will not cover all lesions removed. Biopsy results held electronically do not use the 'B' system of lesions classification

a. Of this total number, how many of these are classified as B2?

b. Of this total number, how many of these are classified as B3?

3. How many benign breast lesions have not been removed per annum in the last three years?

We use the ICD-10 classification system for clinical coding of diagnoses and this does not support clear identification of lesions as being benign. ICD-10 code 'D24X' signifies 'benign neoplasm of breast' but this will not cover all lesions removed

4. How many benign breast lesions have been removed by vacuum assisted excision (VEA) per annum in the last three years?

We use the ICD-10 classification system for clinical coding of diagnoses and this does not support clear identification of lesions as being benign. ICD-10 code 'D24X' signifies 'benign neoplasm of breast' but this will not cover all lesions removed. Biopsy results held electronically do not use the 'B' system of lesions classification

a. Of this total number, how many of these are classified as B2 (definition below)?

b. Of this total number, how many of these are classified as B3 (definition below)?

5. Is the Trust aware of NICE guidance promoting the use of VAE for removal of benign lesions?

Yes

6. Does the Trust have a referral pathway in place for vacuum assisted percutaneous excision of benign breast lesions?

No (However, the Trust has very recently acquired the necessary equipment and so will now be considering introduction of new pathways)