

Date: 17/12/2021

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 015966 - Skin grafts, replica 3D printing

I am compiling existing data on the costs and implications for skin grafts and dressings, these can be on any region of the body and due to any illness or injury, although in particular chronic wounds.

For example with the skin grafts, we are taking note of the material used, whether human, animal, synthetic, the type of graft, location, type of lesion and size. Then a breakdown of the costs to carry this out, we are particularly interested in the 'material / graft cost' but all other additional costs are relevant too such as staff, theatre, clinic and hospital stays costs. Following the costs we are looking at the admission times, rate of recovery, rates of infections or failure from the grafts.

For the dressings we are looking at the type of wound, its age and where it is located on the body, the dressing being used and brand. The costs break it down to the dressing and associated costs such as nurses, the changing frequency and the costs per healed wound / patient. We are also interested in if the dressing contains any antibacterial, analgesic components or special features to help with exudate levels.

The Trust does not record or break down the information to this level of detail so we are unable to provide the information requested.

Alongside this I am also researching existing hospitals that are using 3D printing, I saw an article from 2014 stating you were one of 12 hospitals at the time using Replica 3DM's 3D printing to test implants.

Because of this article, I was wondering how far the hospital has come with using and implementing 3D printing within the last 7 years and if you can provide any costs, applications and suppliers etc. that you use and if the hospital has looked into tissue / bioengineering and printing.

- The Trust does not have a 3D printer