



## Resolution

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
151 Buckingham Palace Road  
London  
SW1W 9SZ  
Telephone: 020 7811 2700

27 April 2020

FOI\_4466

Thank you for your request for information dated 27 March 2020, in which we note that you requested the following data from the Practitioner Performance Advice service:

*'I am interested in knowing the referral numbers and the bias for gender etc as below.*

*I would like to know the following:*

*How many referrals have you had generally and more specifically for anaesthetics for practitioner performance issues over the last 5 years?*

*Of these referrals was there any gender/ age/ IMG bias? Is there any way of finding out if there were any trainees included in this data?*

*I have tried to find a relevant report such as the 2009/10 data published looking at these issues in general. "concerns about professional practice and associations with age, gender, place of qualification and ethnicity"*

We have considered this request under the Freedom of Information Act and our response to your request is as follows,

1. *'How many referrals [the Advice service] has had generally and more specifically for anaesthetics for practitioner performance issues over the last 5 years?'*

Based on data from the start of the financial year 2015/16 (1 April 2015) to the end of the financial year 2019/20 (31 March 2020), the total number of requests for advice was 3,087.

In the same period (FY 2015/16-2019/20) the total number of for advice in respect of anaesthetists was 201.

2. *'Of these referrals was there any gender/ age/ IMG bias? Is there any way of finding out if there were any trainees included in this data?'*

As an advisory body, our role is to provide impartial advice to healthcare organisations on the fair and effective management and resolution concerns raised about the practice of individual practitioners. We encourage healthcare

organisations to make early contact with us where there is a concern about an individual's practice. We are unable to comment on whether there was any bias in the results by gender, age or place of qualification. However, we set out the data requested below for your information.

Age Group	Female	Male
<30	2	4
30-34	3	3
35-39	2	9
40-44	10	14
45-49	3	24
50-54	7	31
55-59	3	25
60-64	0	11
65-69	1	4
70+	0	3
Not disclosed	1	3
Not known	7	31

Qualification Location	Total
Not known	18
Other EEA	19
Outside EEA	71
UK	93

3. *You asked 'is there any way of finding out if there were any trainees included in this data?'*

The Advice received a total of twelve requests for advice in respect of trainees in anaesthetics during the period under consideration.

**This concludes our response to your request.**

We hope this above information is helpful.

If you are not satisfied with the service that you have received in response to your information request, it is open to you to make a complaint and request a formal review of our decisions. If you choose to do this, you should write to [Tinku Mitra](#), Head of Corporate and Information Governance for NHS Resolution, within 28 days of your receipt of this reply. Reviews of decisions made in relation to information requests are carried out by a person who was not involved in the original decision-making about the request.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a review of the decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will not make a decision unless you have exhausted the local complaints procedure. The address of the Information Commissioner's Office is:

Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

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