



Resolution


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Telephone: 020 7811 2700

October 2022

FOI_5583

The following information was requested on 20 September 2022:

 I'm
working on a piece about litigation within the profession, and I wonder if you could help
me with any information on the cost of this in the NHS?

For example, of the £2.5bn spent on claims in 2021/22 according to your annual report,
could you confirm what proportion of this was attributed to podiatrists?

Our Response

We only hold claims data for England (our schemes only cover England), not the UK.

Please **find attached** the information we are able to provide in respect of the Specialty
– **Podiatry**

Table 1 shows – Total Spend (including PPOs), in the financial year 2021/22 for
Clinical claims that fall under the specialty **Podiatry**.

The payment amount relates to **any** payments (will include any interim payments and
costs payments) made against the specialty Podiatry in this financial year. This will
include closed, settled and open claims.

Please note claims notified/received and open are not guaranteed to be settled in the
same year and can take many years to be concluded. Claims notified/received in any
given year will often relate to incidents that have occurred many years prior. Due to the
nature of clinical negligence claims and the level of investigation needed to bring them
to a resolution, claims received and notified in a specific year may take years to settle.

Some of the claims notified will have been repudiated and settled without damages
paid.

The information disclosed includes damages paid out in the relevant period under
Periodical payment orders (PPO) previously agreed on cases, which may have been
resolved several years ago. It does not include sums, which have been committed on
settlements in the relevant period under a PPO, which may not be paid out until future

years. PPOs are an agreement between the parties, to pay an initial lump sum and regular future payments covering the injured party's ongoing care needs, usually for life i.e. a percentage of the full value of the claim is paid at the point of settlement with the balance paid at regular intervals over subsequent years.

We have also carried out a thematic review on [Diabetes and lower limb complications](#).

Further to our obligations to provide advice and assistance, you may find it helpful to review the work of the [Getting It Right First Time team](#) with whom NHS Resolution has been working with to undertake in-depth analysis of our claims data. They have produced a number of [reports](#) from analysing our claims data which has been shared following approval of the confidentiality advisory group to the use of confidential patient information for this purpose.

If you would like to know how data is categorised in our Claims database please see the following link: [Glossary](#)

This concludes our response to your request.

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](#), Deputy Director of Corporate and Information Governance, Data Protection Officer 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

<https://ico.org.uk/>

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NB: Number of claims fewer than 5 (and any associated values, within the same row) are masked with a "#" (in accordance with Data Protection guidelines). Accordingly, some total values may also be approximated to prevent masked values to be deduced through reverse calculation.

Table 1: Total Spend (including PPOs), in financial year 2021/22 for Clinical claims that fall under the specialty Podiatry.

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Status Flag	All
Specialty	Podiatry

Spend Year	No. of Claims	Total Spend
2021/22	110	4,253,445
Grand Total	110	4,253,445