

Freedom of Information Act 2000

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request

Date Request Received: 20th June 2025

FOI Ref No 29235

Requested Information:

Please could you provide the following information relating to coronary artery rupture incidents during angioplasty procedures—both elective (routine) and primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PPCI)—within your Trust:

1. The number of incidents of Ellis grade 3 coronary artery ruptures (or all ruptures if unable to differentiate) recorded during angioplasty procedures (routine or PPCI), for each of the past 5 years (or for the most recent years available).
2. Of these cases:
 - How many resulted in cardiac tamponade?
 - How many required the use of a polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)-covered stent?
 - How many were referred for and/or underwent coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG)?
 - Please provide outcome data for these patients, if available – e.g., survival to discharge, major complications, or 30-day mortality (if tracked).

Response:

Further to your request for information dated **20th June 2025**, I can confirm that the Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust (RCHT) holds information that falls within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the costs of complying with your request would exceed the cost limit. The cost limit is specified in regulations and for the Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust this is set at £450. The cost limit represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 working hours in determining whether the Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust hold the information, locating, retrieving, and extracting the information. Consequently, the Trust is not obliged under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to respond to your request, and we will not be processing your request further. **The information you have requested is not coded, and therefore not stored centrally. Collating this information would therefore require a manual review of patient notes.**

We may be able to assist you if you amend the information you are requesting.

Unfortunately, we do not have specific codes for the information you have requested within ICD-10. We therefore cannot provide an accurate depiction of the number of incidents of Coronary Artery Rupture.

- Ellis Grade 3 Coronary Artery Ruptures are not captured within ICD-10.
- Coronary Artery rupture is coded to I21.9. This code is also used to capture an Acute MI/MI.
- There is no exact external cause code for PPCI. The following codes can be used as external cause codes for cardiac stent implantation:
 - Y83.1 – Surgical Operation with Implant of Artificial Internal Device (this could be used to capture the implantation of a different type of artificial internal device in another part of the body)
 - If only a cardiac catheterisation took place, it would be coded as Y84.0 – Cardiac Catheterisation

For Question 1, we can collate data using these codes. If you decide to do this, please be aware that the figures would represent the number of incidents of coronary artery rupture or acute MI/MI during cardiac catheterisation or a surgical operation with implant of artificial internal device. You could also add external cause codes for misadventure during surgical care e.g., unintentional perforation or an adverse incident associated with a cardiovascular device.

Answers to the points listed in question two cannot be provided without identifying a cohort for question one. If you do wish to amend question one, as above, please be advised of the below.

- Cardiac tamponade would be coded to I31.9 – Disease of the pericardium, unspecified. This code could be used to capture conditions other than cardiac tamponade.
- We cannot capture specific types of stents, like PTFE, in our procedure coding. We can only capture 'Drug Eluting', 'Metal', 'Plastic' etc.

Please let us know if this would be acceptable. Any narrowed request received will be treated as a new FOI request and the time limit to respond will not begin until we have received that narrowed request.

I apologise that we are unable to fully assist you in this instance.

If you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Information Governance Manager, Knowledge Spa, Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3LJ or e-mail rch-tr.FOI@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Royal Cornwall Hospital.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Telephone: 0303 123 1113 or 01625 54 57 45

www.ico.org.uk

Attachment(s):

No Attachment(s)

Date Response sent: 2nd July 2025