



NIAS REF: 36415-25

Good Afternoon

I would advise that the NIAS is a pre-hospital organisation and therefore we do not operate an acute hospital service to the public in terms cataract surgery. This would fall under the remit of each individual Health & Social Care Trust operating within Northern Ireland as detailed below:

Northern Health & Social Care Trust
Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Western Health & Social Care Trust
South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust
Southern Health & Social Care Trust

I would suggest making contact with each of the FOI teams in the above Trust's (emails addresses will be available via their websites) and they should be able to assist you further.

The information requested is not held by the NIAS.

Kind regards

Information Governance Team

From: Sent: 19 March 2025 10:24
To: NIAS FOI <foi@nias.hscni.net>
Subject: Freedom of Information Request

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following:

Number of procedures (April 2024 – YTD)

1. The overall / total spend on cataract surgery procedures each financial year by year across your Health Board from 2018/19 to 2023/24. Please additionally supply the total spend on cataract surgery procedures across your Health Board for the financial year of 2024/25 if this is presently available.
2. The overall / total number of cataract surgery procedures undertaken each financial year by year across your Health Board from 2018/19 to 2023/24. Please additionally supply the overall / total number of cataract surgery procedures across your Health Board for the financial year of 2024/25 if this is presently available.
3. The overall / total spend on cataract surgery procedures each financial year by year across your Health Board to each NHS Hospital and Private (Independent Sector) Provider from 2018/19 to 2023/24 broken down by individual NHS Hospital and Private Provider. Please additionally supply the total spend on cataract surgery procedures across your Health Board to each NHS Hospital and Private Provider on an individual level for the financial year of 2024/25 if this is presently available.



Please specifically specify your answer to Question 3 for the following Private Providers:

- a) Kingsbridge Private Hospital
- b) Hillsborough Private Clinic
- c) Cathedral Eye Clinic
- d) Optical Express
- e) Ulster Independent Clinic
- f) Spamedica
- g) Freedom Vision

4. The overall / total number of cataract surgery procedures undertaken in each financial year by year across your Health Board by each NHS Hospital and Private (Independent Sector) Provider from 2018/19 to 2023/24 broken down by individual NHS Hospital and Private Provider. Please additionally supply the total number of cataract surgery procedures undertaken by each NHS Hospital and Private Provider across your Health Board by each NHS Hospital and Private Provider on an individual level for the financial year of 2024/25 if this is presently available.

Please specifically specify your answer to Question 4 for the following Private Providers:

- h) Kingsbridge Private Hospital
- i) Hillsborough Private Clinic
- j) Cathedral Eye Clinic
- k) Optical Express
- l) Ulster Independent Clinic
- m) Spamedica
- n) Freedom Vision

5. For the period 1st of April 2024 to YTD, please provide the names of all in NHS Hospital and Private (Independent Sector) Providers that have undertaken Cataract Surgery, YAG capsulotomy procedures, General Ophthalmology outpatient, Oculoplastic services, AMD services & Glaucoma services of any description to the Health Board.

6. Please provide the number of patients on waiting lists for cataract surgery at the Health Board as of:

- a) 1 January 2019
- b) 1 January 2020
- c) 1 January 2021
- d) 1 January 2022
- e) 1 January 2023
- f) 1 January 2024
- g) 1 January 2025

7. Please provide the number and percentage of patients who were waiting longer than 18 weeks from the date of referral to cataract surgery as of:



- a) 1 January 2019
- b) 1 January 2020
- c) 1 January 2021
- d) 1 January 2022
- e) 1 January 2023
- f) 1 January 2024
- g) 1 January 2025

8. Please provide the maximum and average wait times of patients on waiting lists for cataract surgery at the Health Board as of:

- h) 1 January 2019
- i) 1 January 2020
- j) 1 January 2021
- k) 1 January 2022
- l) 1 January 2023
- m) 1 January 2024
- n) 1 January 2025

9. Please provide the number and percentage of NHS funded patients who had Immediate Sequential Bilateral Cataract Surgery at Hospitals and Private Providers (individually and collectively) within your Health Board in each of the following financial years:

- a) 2019/2020
- b) 2020/2021
- c) 2021/2022
- d) 2022/2023
- e) 2023/2024
- f) 2024/2025

10. Please provide the minimum, maximum and average number of eyes treated on cataract surgery lists (by session, up to 4 hours) at Hospitals and Private Providers (individually by provider) within your Health Board in each of the following financial years:

- g) 2019/2020
- h) 2020/2021
- i) 2021/2022
- j) 2022/2023
- k) 2023/2024
- l) 2024/2025

This response has been prepared for disclosure log publication. Only minor editorial or redaction amendments have been made for clarity and compliance with data protection legislation. The substantive content is identical to that provided to the requestor and the original issued version remains the authoritative record.