

Dear Colleague,

**RE: FOI - Staffing Levels in Trauma & Orthopaedics**

Since April 2014 all hospitals are required to publish information about the number of nursing and midwifery staff working on each ward, together with the percentage of shifts meeting safe staffing guidelines. This initiative is part of the NHS response to the Francis report which called for greater openness and transparency in the health service. Thus far, the medical profession has not been required to publish the same information.

In our ever stretched hospital departments, we consistently face staff shortages across different grades and roles and this is no different within Trauma & Orthopaedics. Our study aims to complete a Freedom of Information request to capture the numbers in these various roles, and attempt to compare across the country. This project has been registered with our hospital Audit department.

We kindly request your participation.

The questions below may require input from a few individuals within your department / trust and so may need collating before preparation for submission.

Please note, all questions are applicable to Trauma & Orthopaedics only. Where staff numbers are requested, answers should represent the number of full time equivalent staff. This is a snapshot audit and so please can your answers represent your department on 1st November 2022.

Many thanks in advance for your help and participation.

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**Staffing Levels in Trauma & Orthopaedics Survey Questions** \*answers given in relation to Neurosurgery and Ortho-Spine

**1) What is Your Hospital Trauma Status?**

* Level 1 - Major Trauma Centre

**2) Admissions accepted under your T&O department?**

* Polytrauma
* Head Injuries
* Spinal Injuries
1. **Number of allocated trauma beds?** 1 SpR and one Trust employed fellow at SpR level
2. **Number of allocated elective beds?** Nil number allocated
3. **Annual number of trauma admissions?** 2021 = 248, 2020 = 292
4. **Annual number of elective admissions?** 2021 = 2994 (968 daycase, 2026 elective)
5. **Number of Consultants?** 21 Neurosurgeons, 5 ortho-spinal consultants
6. **Number of middle grades (SpR / associate specialist)?** 3 T&O registrars that complete a spinal rotation with their T&O attachment.
7. **Number of Junior grades (FY / SHO)?** N/A
8. **Number of Advanced Care Practitioners?** 1 Head injury ACP
9. **Number of Trauma Coordinators**? 6 MTNP’s who work across Aintree and The Walton Centre
10. **Weekly trauma theatre capacity? e.g. 1 half day theatre, whole day theatre, multiple theatres –** nil trauma theatre capacity but we run x1 24/7 dedicated emergency list
11. **Weekly elective theatre capacity? e.g. 1 half day theatre, whole day theatre, multiple theatres -** we run x6 whole day theatre lists every week

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