

Date response issued: 05/09/2017
Request reference: FOI.17.NOR104

Freedom of Information Request

I'm writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to ask whether your CCG employs a maximum BMI restriction on any type of surgery or procedure, ie prevents a patient with a BMI over a certain number from having certain types of surgery. Please provide me with the following information:

1. Do you, or have you at any point since 2010, employed a maximum BMI limit above which someone is not allowed to have a procedure? (please specify whether still in force and, if not, when it was introduced and ended)

IF YES:

2. What is the BMI limit?
3. To which procedures does this apply (for example, routine hip and knee surgery, breast reduction, cataract removal) - please list all types of procedure where a BMI limit is in force.
4. How many people have been stopped from having a procedure because their BMI was too high since the restriction came into force? Please also break this information down by calendar year.

NHS Norwich CCG response

NHS Norwich CCG would like to respond as follows:

1. Yes
2. There is BMI criteria in place for primary hip and primary knee arthroplasty. The policies for these procedures state that

"Patients with a BMI of over 35 must be advised to lose weight to reduce the risk of complications and improve outcomes. Patients should be offered referral (where available) or signposted to local weight management programmes to support weight loss".

This has been in force since September 2015.

3. Please see the response to question 2.

4. The CCG can confirm there have been no patients declined on the grounds of BMI up until 31/03/2017.

In respect to the information requested from April 2017 onwards, please contact the relevant providers. Contact details can be found on their websites below:

[Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust](#)
[The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn NHS Foundation Trust](#)
[James Paget University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust](#)
[BMI St Edmunds Hospital](#)
[BMI The Sandringham Hospital](#)