

File reference	W17FOI264
Key words	Hip protection aides
Date of release	05/06/2017
Attachments	No

Freedom of Information Act Disclosure log - Reply Extract

You asked

We are interested in conducting a research project that would assess the effects of providing assistive devices and hip precautions following total hip replacement (THR) on patients' functioning and mobility post-operatively. To make it a bit clearer, I can provide you with some background information.

Following total hip replacement (THR), there is a small chance of dislocation after surgery to replace a hip. To reduce this chance, rehabilitation is offered in hospital after surgery. This rehabilitation often includes advice on movements (hip precautions) to avoid such as leg crossing or bending down to pick something up off the floor (usually provided by orthopaedic surgeons). To help people avoid these movements, occupational therapists often give out equipment (assistive devices) such as raised toilet seats, long-handled aids, long-handled shoe horns, sock-aids, long-handled sponges, bath benches, wedge pillows and perching stools. This is standard practice in the NHS. Recently, however, certain hospitals have proceed to discontinue provision of the precautions and/or equipment to patients following THR. We would like to know which hospitals have done so in order to explore the effects of assistive devices and hip precautions on this patient population as far as functioning and mobility is concerned. Our aim is to compare patient outcomes between hospitals that are still providing hip precautions and equipment with hospitals that have removed them.

We are aware that certain hospitals have proceed to discontinue the provision of these devices and/or precautions but we do not know which ones so we would like to have a list of all sites that have done so in the UK.

NHS England as well as CCGs informed us that they are unable to respond satisfactorily to our enquiry or provide us with appropriate information as NHS England do not commission secondary care services such as hospital services or that they do not hold that information in the case of CCGs. Therefore, they suggested we contact the local Trusts regarding our enquiry.

Our question is:

Has your hospital discontinued provision of hip precautions and/or assistive devices/equipment such as raised toilet seats, long-handled aids, long-

handled shoe horns, sock-aids, long-handled sponges, bath benches, wedge pillows and perching stools to patients following total hip replacement (THR)?

No, Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust continue to provide hip precaution advice and aids as required including raised toilet seats, Chair raise, long handled grab device and perching stool etc. However, we do not provide some of the small aids listed below e.g. long handled shoe horns and sponges.