



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Cwm Taf Morgannwg  
University Health Board

Your ref/eich cyf:  
Our ref/ein cyf:  
Date/Dyddiad:  
Tel/ffôn:  
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PM/TLT  
24 June 2022  
[REDACTED]  
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Chair and Chief Executive

Mr Jack Sargeant MS  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

Dear Mr Sargeant

**Petition P-06-1240 Improve health services for people with epilepsy living in Wales**

Thank you for your letter of the 7 June 2022.

Epilepsy Services for CTM UHB are provided via the Neurology team. However, Neurology services are not provided directly by CTM UHB, but via a Service Level Agreement (SLA) from Cardiff and Vale UHB to patients in the Rhondda Taf Ely and Merthyr Cynon areas. The Bridgend and Maesteg areas receive their Neurology services via an SLA with Swansea Bay UHB.

The visiting Consultants provide a range of services including outpatient clinics, review of ward referrals, prioritising new referrals into the service and reviewing results of existing patients under the care of the service, many of whom have life-long neurological conditions and answering queries from other medical staff.

A Neurology Services review was undertaken by the Health Board's Commissioning team in March 2018 which showed significant shortfalls across the range of Neurological services. The Association of British Neurologists (ABN) suggests that there is 1 whole time equivalent (wte) Consultant Neurologist per 100,000 population. There is great disparity amongst Health

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Croeso i chi gyfathrebu â'r bwrdd iechyd yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg. Byddwn yn ymateb yn yr un iaith a ni fydd hyn yn arwain at oedi.

You are welcome to correspond with the health board in Welsh or English. We will respond accordingly and this will not delay the response.

Cyfeiriad Dychwelyd/Return Address:  
Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Cwm Taf Morgannwg, Pencadlys, Parc Navigation, Abercynon, CF45 4SN  
Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board, Headquarters, Navigation Park, Abercynon, CF45 4SN

Cadeirydd/Chair: Emrys Elias Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: Paul Mears

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Cwm Taf Morgannwg yw enw gweithredol Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Cwm Taf Morgannwg  
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against the ABN standard for the number of Consultant Neurologists, outlined below:

- Aneurin Bevan has a population of 594,164 with 8 working time equivalent (wte), equating to 1 per 74,000.
- Cardiff and Vale has a population of 500,490 with 7.5wte, equating to 1 per 66,000.
- Swansea has a population of 390,308 with 11wte, equating to 1 per 35,000.
- Cwm Taf Morgannwg has a population of 448,639 with 2wte, equating to 1 per 224,000.

Regarding Epilepsy services, it is good practice to have Epilepsy Clinical Nurse Specialists providing clinical input and care to people living with epilepsy. There are currently no Epilepsy CNS dedicated to the CTMUHB population and this service is provided by Cardiff and Vale CNS's on a goodwill basis which is unsustainable and serviced by clinics in Cardiff. This results in a high DNA rate within the clinics as they are not close to the population they serve.

Shortfalls in Neurological provision have been highlighted in the Health Board's Integrated Medium Term Plan over the last few years but due to competing priorities have not received additional funding.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Mears', with a long, sweeping underline.

**Paul Mears**  
**Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive**