

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/030**  
**biologic and biosimilar products within Rheumatology**

**Information Requested:**

We are analysing the usage of biologic and biosimilar products within Rheumatology. It would be really helpful if you could answer the following two questions:

1. Could you please provide the numbers of patients treated by the rheumatology department (for any condition) in the last 3 months with the following drugs:

Abatacept [Orencia]	50
Adalimumab [Humira]	56
Adalimumab Biosimilars	310
Apremilast [Otezla]	*
Baricitinib [Olumiant]	54
Certolizumab [Cimzia]	115
Etanercept [Enbrel]	36
Etanercept Biosimilars	226
Filgotinib [Jyseleca]	0
Golimumab [Simponi]	33
Guselkumab [Tremfya]	0
Infliximab [Remicade]	*
Infliximab Biosimilars	*
Ixekizumab [Taltz]	4
Risankizumab [Skyrizi]	0
Rituximab [MabThera]	*
Rituximab Biosimilars	*
Sarilumab [Kevzara]	14
Secukinumab [Cosentyx]	32
Tocilizumab [Ro Actemra]	101
Tofacitinib [Xeljanz]	8
Upadacitinib [Rinvoq]	2
Ustekinumab [Stelara]	17

**Please note:** for medicines marked with an Asterix,

**Apremilast.** In completing a search for the information requested, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) has confirmed that this information is not centrally recorded or collated. To retrieve the information requested would require a manual search through individual records and the UHB considers that this would exceed the limit set within regulations for responding to a request. The UHB has therefore relied upon the Section 12 exemption ('Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit') of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is refusing your request.

The UHB has estimated that to complete the work needed to respond to this request would exceed the time limit as set within regulations to respond to a Freedom of Information Act request. Under the Act there is an allowance of two and a half days, or 18 hours, to comply with a request and the cost limit set within the fees' regulations for this amount of work (18 hours) is £450 for the UHB. The fees regulations specify that the cost of complying with a request must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour.

However, under Section 16 of the FOIA, which provides us with the duty to advise and assist, the UHB can inform you that these supplies are made in the community and the UHB does not automatically record this data.

**Infliximab and rituximab:** The UHB believes that section 12 as detailed above applies here. Under Section 16 of the FOIA, which provides us with the duty to advise and assist, the UHB can inform you that these medicines are administered as an infusion in clinic, and the dose varies according to patient body weight and therefore the UHB cannot determine how many patients this corresponds to.

**Q2. Could you please provide the numbers of patients treated for Axial Spondyloarthritis ONLY in the last 3 months with the following drugs.**

- Adalimumab [Humira]
- Adalimumab Biosimilars
- Certolizumab [Cimzia]
- Etanercept [Enbrel]
- Etanercept Biosimilars
- Golimumab [Simponi]
- Infliximab [Remicade]
- Infliximab Biosimilars
- Ixekizumab [Taltz]
- Secukinumab [Cosentyx]
- Tofacitinib [Xeljanz]
- Upadacitinib [Rinvoq]

The UHB believes that Section 12 applies here. Please see the exemption set out above.