

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/040

Biologic Drugs in Dermatology

I have a freedom of information query regarding the use of Biologic medicines in Dermatology. Could you please answer the following three questions?

Q1. How many patients were treated in the last 3 months by the Dermatology department (for any medical condition) with the following biologic drugs:

- Adalimumab – Humira 12
- Adalimumab Biosimilar 159
- Apremilast *
- Bimekizumab 8
- Brodalumab 6
- Certolizumab 10
- Dimethyl fumarate*
- Etanercept – Enbrel 0
- Etanercept Biosimilar 5
- Guselkumab 18
- Infliximab – Remicade*
- Infliximab Biosimilar*
- Ixekizumab 20
- Risankizumab 35
- Secukinumab 37 0
- Tildrakizumab 0
- Ustekinumab 43

*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.

Under Section 16, which provides us with the duty to advise and assist, the UHB can advise that Apremilast and dimethyl fumarate are dispensed in the community. Infliximab is infused in derm clinic and the dose varies according to patient's weight so although we will know how many vials we have supplied we don't

know how many patients this equates to, Ciclosporin and methotrexate tablets and injection are also dispensed in community.

Q2. How many patients were treated in the last 3 months by the Dermatology department for Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS) ONLY with the following biologic drugs:

- **Adalimumab - Humira**
- **Adalimumab Biosimilar**
- **Infliximab - Remicade**
- **Infliximab Biosimilar**
- **Secukinumab**
- **Ustekinumab**

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

Q3. How many patients were treated in the last 3 months by the Dermatology department for Psoriasis ONLY in the last three months with the following:

- Ciclosporin
- Methotrexate - any form and strength
- Methotrexate injections 15mg and above

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