

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/541
Giant Cell Arteritis

Q1. Does your trust or health board treat giant cell arteritis (GCA)? If not, please provide the name of the hospital or trust that you refer GCA patients to.

The Rheumatology Department at University Hospital of Wales receives emergency referrals for GCA and treats accordingly.

Q2. In the past 3 months, how many patients with a primary diagnosis of GCA (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) were:

- **Admitted as an inpatient:**

0 patients admitted as inpatients in this period – as of 24 October 2023.

- **Treated in A&E:**

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.

Q3. How many patients were treated by the rheumatology department in the past 3 months with the following:

- **Tocilizumab – for any disease**
- **Tocilizumab for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) only**
- **Tocilizumab for giant cell arteritis (GCA) only**

For any disease: 101 patients. Please note that the UHB is unable to provide disease-specific data.

Q4. How many patients were treated by the ophthalmology department (for any disease) in the past 3 months with Tocilizumab?

0 patients.

Q5. How many patients were treated in A&E in the past 3 months for giant cell arteritis (GCA) with Tocilizumab?

In completing a search for the information requested, 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.