

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/24/243**  
**Acute Myeloid Leukaemia**

Please answer the questions with regards to NHS patients, i.e., excluding patients that received treatment as part of clinical trials or private healthcare.

1. Do you treat patients with acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) in your Trust?

*Answer:* Yes.

*If yes, please proceed to Question 3, if no, please answer Question 2*

2. Where do patients diagnosed with AML in your Trust receive treatment?

*Answer:* Not applicable.

3. Please complete the table below with how many **newly diagnosed** patients with AML have **started first-line treatment** with each of the following therapies during the 6-month period October 2023 to March 2024?

- Azacitidine monotherapy
- Low dose cytarabine (LoDAC) monotherapy
- Venetoclax + azacitidine
- Venetoclax + LoDAC
- Ivosidenib
- Intensive chemotherapy-based regimen
  - Examples include: cytarabine and daunorubicin, idarubicin, fludarabine, mitoxantrone, etoposide (VP-16), 6-thioguanine (6-TG), methotrexate (MTX) or 6-mercaptopurine (6-MP), gemtuzumab ozogamicin with daunorubicin cytarabine, or FLAG-Ida (fludarabine, cytarabine, granulocyte-colony stimulating factor and idarubicin)
- Best supportive care
- Other
  - Do **not** include prophylactic therapies such as GCSF, anti-fungals, antihistamines, anti-nauseants

**Note: this should only include patients with AML who have started first-line treatment during the 6-month window**

**Answer:**

Treatment option	Number of newly diagnosed patients with AML starting first line treatment during the 6-month period October 2023 to March 2024
Azacitidine monotherapy	6
(LoDAC) monotherapy	<i>Request refused</i>
Venetoclax + azacitidine	<i>Request refused</i>
Venetoclax + LoDAC	<i>Request refused</i>
Ivosidenib	0
Intensive chemotherapy-based regimen	<i>Request refused</i>
Best supportive care	<i>Request refused</i>
Other	<i>Request refused</i>

In completing a search for the information requested, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) has confirmed that certain 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 the Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations 2004. The UHB has therefore relied upon the section 12 exemption of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000) ('Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit') and is refusing your request for the following reasons.

It should first be noted that multiple requests within a single item of correspondence are considered separate requests for the purposes of section 12(4) of the FOIA 2000, as confirmed in *Fitzsimmons v Information Commissioner* [2008] UKIT EA/2007/0124.

When a public authority is estimating whether the appropriate limit is likely to be exceeded for the purposes of regulation 5 of the Fees Regulations as prescribed by section 12(4) of the FOIA 2000, it can include the costs of complying with two or more requests if these are:

- made by one person, or by different persons who appear to the public authority to be acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign; and
- received by the public authority within any period of 60 working days.

Since all of these requests were sent by the same individual and received on 16 April 2024, the UHB believes these conditions to be satisfied.

Regulation 5(2) of the Fees Regulations equally requires that aggregated requests relate 'to any extent' to the same or similar information. This test is likely to be met where requests possess an overarching theme or have a common thread running between them with respect to the nature of the information sought. And since each of the requests relates to acute myeloid leukaemia treatment, the UHB considers the requirement of similar information sought to be met due to the common themes present.

The UHB has estimated that to complete the work needed to respond to the aggregated requests would exceed the time limit as set within the Fees Regulations to respond to a request made under the FOIA 2000. 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 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.

In light of the above considerations, the UHB is refusing your requests for information in accordance with section 12(4) of the FOIA 2000.