

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-148

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Data, Security and Protection
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 11th August 2020

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 29th July 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding FOC drugs

On our acknowledgment we added the following statement:

The University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust is committed to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

However, the NHS is facing unprecedented challenges relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic at the current time. Understandably, our resources have been diverted to support our front-line colleagues who are working tremendously hard to provide care for our patients, and to those in need of our services.

We strive to be transparent and to work with an open culture. But at this time, whilst care of our patients and the safety of our staff takes precedent, it is likely that responses to some requests for information will be delayed. We apologise for this position in advance, and will endeavour to provide you with as much information as we can, as soon as we are able.

The Information Commissioners Office has recognised the current situation in the NHS.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 Within the last 2 years has the institution accepted or is it currently accepting any of the following drugs free of charge or for a nominal charge (e.g. £1):

- **Rizankizumab (Skyrizi)**
- **Guselkumab (Tremfya)**
- **Brodalumab (Kyntheum)**
- **Ixekizumab (Taltz)**
- **Secukinumab (Cosentyx)**
- **Tildrakizumab (Ilumetri)**

A1 UHNM is not using any of the above drugs free of charge or for a nominal charge (e.g. £1)

Q2 If yes to any of the above, are you able to say how long is the free of charge drug stock typically provided for each patient? For example, is it?

- **First dose**

- First month
- First 3 months
- Some other period?

A2 Not applicable- see Answer 1

Q3 If the Institution has not accepted manufacturer provision of free of charge drug stock, are you able to say what have been the reasons for this?

A3 The Trust, in conjunction with responsible commissioners, has governed the use of free of charge schemes in line with the available RMO free of charge (FOC) medicines schemes advice. Each FOC medicines scheme is reviewed on an individual basis to assess risks and clinical benefits.

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature reads "Jean Lehnert" in a cursive, slightly slanted script.

Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager