University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust

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

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-238

Date: 19th October 2020

Dear

I am writing in response to your emails dated 21st September 2020 and 1st October requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding biologic drugs and MS drug usage (previous reference 257-2021).

We contacted you via email informing you that under section 12 of the FOI Act we were aggregating these requests on biologic drugs and Multiple Sclerosis

Your reference number for both requests is 238-2021

The section 12 exemption states:

The authority can combine related requests received within a period of 60 consecutive days from:
- The same person or
- People who appear to be acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign.

On 2nd October 2020 we contacted you via email as we required clarification on request #2 question 2; we asked whether Q2 is referring to all patients that have been treated for MS.

On 6th October 2020 you replied via email with the following clarification for request #2

"*Yes, Q2 is referring to all patients that have been treated for MS".*

Request #2 Q2

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in question 2 (request #2) is not held centrally, but may be recorded in health records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for.

In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: oppressive burden on the authority

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Under section 16 of the FOI Act we are required to provide requestors with advice and assistance where possible. We would therefore like to advise you that your request is shortened to just the questions that we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame.

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.

REQUEST #1

Q1 Could you please provide the numbers of patients treated in the last 3 months by the Dermatology department (for any medical condition) with the following biologic drugs:

- **Adalimumab – Humira**
- **Adalimumab Biosimilar**
- **Apremilast**
- **Brodalumab**
- **Certolizumab**
- **Dimethyl fumarate**
- **Etanercept - Enbrel**
- **Etanercept Biosimilar**
- **Guselkumab**
- **Infliximab - Remicade**
- **Infliximab Biosimilar**
- **Ixekizumab**
- **Risankizumab**
- **Secukinumab**
- **Tildrakizumab**
- **Ustekinumab**

A1 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers <5

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed

Adalimumab - Humira	5
Adalimumab Biosimilar	79
Apremilast	<5
Brodalumab	0
Certolizumab	0
Dimethyl fumarate	0
Etanercept - Enbrel	<5
Etanercept Biosimilar	<5

Guselkumab	0
Infliximab - Remicade	0
Infliximab Biosimilar	0
Ixekizumab	<5
Risankizumab	0
Secukinumab	35
Tildrakizumab	0
Ustekinumab	47

Q2 **For the patients treated by the Dermatology department in the last three months with any of the above drugs, can you please provide the total number of paediatric (up to age 16) versus adult patients?**

A2 Nil

Q3 **Could you please provide the numbers of patients treated in the last 3 months by the Gastroenterology department (for any medical condition) with the following biologic drugs?**

- **Adalimumab – Humira**
- **Adalimumab Biosimilar**
- **Golimumab**
- **Infliximab - Remicade**
- **Infliximab Biosimilar**
- **Tofacitinib**
- **Ustekinumab**
- **Vedolizumab**

A3 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. Personal information. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers <5

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed

Adalimumab - Humira	19
Adalimumab Biosimilar	248
Golimumab	<5
Infliximab - Remicade	6
Infliximab Biosimilar	67
Tofacitinib	7
Ustekinumab	66
Vedolizumab	33

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REQUEST #2

Q1 How many patients have been treated with the following drugs (for any disease) in the past 6 months?

- **Ampyra (dalfampridine)**
- **Aubagio (teriflunomide)**
- **Avonex (interferon beta-1a)**
- **Betaferon (interferon beta-1b)**
- **Brabio (glatiramer acetate)**
- **Copaxone (glatiramer acetate)**
- **Extavia (beta interferon-1b)**
- **Gilenya (fingolimod)**
- **Lemtrada (alemtuzumab)**
- **Mavenclad (cladribine)**
- **Mayzent (siponimod)**
- **Ocrevus (ocrelizumab)**
- **Plegridy (peginterferon beta-1a)**
- **Rebif (beta interferon-1a)**
- **Tecfidera (dimethyl fumarate)**
- **Tysabri (natalizumab)**
- **Vumerity (diroximel fumarate)**
- **Zeposia (ozanimod)**

A1 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers <5

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed. Please see below:

Ampyra	Dalfampridine	0
Aubagio	Teriflunomide	16
Avonex	Interferon beta-1a	20
Betaferon	Interferon beta-1b	<5
Brabio	Glatiramer Acetate	0
Copaxone	Glatiramer Acetate	54
Extavia	Beta Interferon-1b	0
Gilenya	Fingolimod	68
Lemtrada	Alemtuzuma	<5
Mavenclad	Cladribine	0
Mayzent	Siponimod	0
Ocrevus	Ocrelizumab	140
Plegridy	Peginterferon beta-1a	27
Rebif	Interferon beta -1a	35

Tecfidera	Dimethyl fumarate	156
Tysabri	Natalizumab	250
Vumerity	Diroximel fumarate	0
Zeposia	Ozanimod	0

Q2 How many patients have been treated in the past 6 months for the following types of multiple sclerosis?

- **Relapsing remitting MS (RRMS)**
- **Secondary progressive MS (SPMS)**
- **Primary progressive MS (PPMS)**
- **Multiple Sclerosis - any type**

A2 Section 12 exemption as detailed above

*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.

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.

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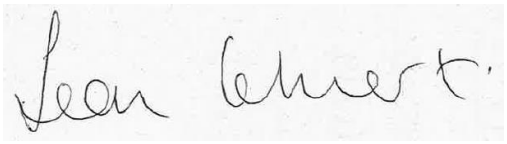
If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager