



Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-366

Date: 7th November 2022

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 4th October 2022 (received into our office 5th October) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Mercaptopurine Usage.

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 Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request the following information please if available.

Your Trust currently purchases Mercaptopurine 50mg tablets and dispenses / administers them to patients. There are only two manufacturers of this product in the UK and they have both got the same licence indication which is as below. However as Mercaptopurine is a well-established product it is also used of licence to treat other conditions safely, notably excessive drooling and sweating.

What I would like to know is the following

For the last 6 months where you have data please can you let me know the breakdown in patient numbers or as a percentage of total demand, what conditions you are using Mercaptopurine 50mg tablets to treat? I have listed below the licenced indications and some of licence uses however please feel free to add in other conditions.

Hopefully this data will be available as the patient numbers are very low anyway and I do not require any patient data only what conditions are treated by percentage or pack breakdown. If Packs are not available, then tablets numbers would be sufficient as well.

Condition being treated	Patients treated for these conditions with Mercaptopurine 50mg tablets	Packs or tablets prescribed over the last 6 months for this condition
Acute Promyelocytic		

Leukaemia		
Acute Myeloid Leukaemia		
Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia		
Crohns disease		
Ulcerative Colitis		
Inflammatory bowel disease		

The last three conditions would be initiated by Gastroenterologists

A1 See below:

Condition being treated	Patients treated for these conditions with Mercaptopurine 50mg tablets	Packs or tablets prescribed over the last 6 months for this condition
Acute Promyelocytic Leukaemia	0	0
Acute Myeloid Leukaemia	0	0
Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia	0	0
Crohns disease	10 patients	1042 tablets
Ulcerative Colitis	6 patients	925 tablets
Inflammatory bowel disease	0	0

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

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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,



Leah Carlisle
Head of Data, Security & Protection/ Data Protection Officer