

Information Governance Department
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Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk
Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2023/9148

Date Received: 18th August 2023

Response Due: 19th September 2023

Date: 18th September 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

Q1. How many patients were treated in the last 4 months (April to July 2023) by the dermatology department with each of the following products:

Data provided for the period Apr-23 to Jul-23 inclusive.

- **Abrocitinib**
<5
- **Acitretin**
21
- **Alitretinoin**
5
- **Azathioprine**
21
- **Baricitinib**
0
- **Ciclosporin**
19
- **Dupilumab**
46
- **Methotrexate**
129
- **Mycophenolate mofetil**
11
- **Pimecrolimus**
<5
- **Phototherapy (UVB or PUVA)**
PUVA patients: 9 patients

UVB patients: 55 patients

- **Tacrolimus ointment**
- <5
- **Tralokinumab**
<5
- **Upadacitinib**
5

Refusal Notice: Sec 40(2) Personal Information

The Trust has a policy of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

To disclose this information would:

- a) Contravene the Data Protection Act principles in that it would amount to unfair and possibly unlawful processing, as there was a legitimate expectation by the third parties that this information would remain confidential, and
- b) Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

Q2. For patients treated by the dermatology department with Dupilumab in the latest four months (April to July 2023), could you please tell us:

- a. **how many patients were treated in the previous 4-month period (December 22 - March 23) with Dupilumab?**
- b. **how many patients were treated in the previous 4-month period (December 22 - March 23) with any of the following advanced therapies - Abrocitinib, Baricitinib, Tralokinumab and Upadacitinib?**
- c. **how many patients were treated in the previous 4-month period (December 22 - March 23) with any of the following immunosuppressants - Methotrexate, Ciclosporin, Mycophenolate or Azathioprine?**
- d. **how many patients were treated in the previous 4-month period (December 22 - March 23) with any of the following - Acitretin, Alitretin, Pimecrolimus or Tacrolimus?**

The treatment data is not recorded centrally, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. We do not interrogate patient records to respond to Freedom of information requests.

Refusal Notice for question(s) - The information that you have requested is exempt under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act because it will take more than 18 hours to retrieve and extract the relevant information.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Gary Masterman
Deputy Chief Pharmacist

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111