

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-353

Royal Stoke University Hospital  
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Date: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018

Tel: 01782 676474  
Email [FOI@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:FOI@uhn.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding MS disease modifying drugs.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) 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 In your Trust how many patients with Multiple Sclerosis have been treated with MS disease modifying drugs in the past 6 months, latest 6 months that you can provide. Please provide the number of patients by treatment for the following disease modifying drugs.**

- **Aubagio (teriflunomide)**
- **Avonex (interferon beta-1a)**
- **Betaferon (interferon beta-1b)**
- **Cladribine (Mavenclad)**
- **Copaxone (glatiramer acetate)**
- **Daclizumab (Zinbryta)**
- **Extavia (beta interferon-1b)**
- **Gilenya (fingolimod)**
- **Glatiramer acetate generic [eg Brabio]**
- **Lemtrada (alemtuzumab)**
- **Ocrevus (Ocrelizumab)**
- **Peginterferon beta-1a (Plegridy)**
- **Rebif (beta interferon-1a)**
- **Tecfidera (dimethyl fumarate)**
- **Tysabri (natalizumab)**
- **Others**
- **Ampyra (Fampyra)**

**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: please refer to the table below: (the table lists the number of patients to whom each drug was issued between March 2018 and August 2018).

Drug	No. of Patients
Aubagio (teriflunomide)	16
Avonex (interferon beta-1a)	36
Betaferon (interferon beta-1b)	Less than 5
Cladribine (Mavenclad)	0
Copaxone (glatiramer acetate)	67
Daclizumab (Zinbryta)	0
Extavia (beta interferon-1b)	0
Gilenya (fingolimod)	75
Glatiramer acetate generic [eg Brabio]	0
Lemtrada (alemtuzumab)	36
Ocrevus (Ocrelizumab)	0
Peginterferon beta-1a (Plegridy)	44
Rebif (beta interferon-1a)	54
Tecfidera (dimethyl fumarate)	154
Tysabri (natalizumab)	261
Others* BCG Bladder Instillation 12.5mg only other product.	Less than 5 (BCG12.5mg Bladder Instillation Oncotice)
Ampyra (Fampyra)	0

**Q2 For patients receiving Tysabri (natalizumab) what is the average waiting times to treatment (i.e. once diagnosed and natalizumab selected as DMT of choice, how long do patients wait for their treatment to start)?**

A2 On average patients can start treatment within 2-3 weeks from their appointment once the decision has been made.

\*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](http://www.ico.org.uk).

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



Leah Carlisle  
**Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance**