



**University Hospitals  
of North Midlands**  
NHS Trust

**Royal Stoke University Hospital**  
**Quality, Safety and Compliance Department**  
Newcastle Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST4 6QG

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/248

Date: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 27<sup>th</sup> July 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Wet Age Related Macular Degeneration (wAMD).

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 your question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in patient health records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all patient 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.

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 if your request is shortened to how many of the vials/ injections were supplied, we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame. In order to avoid delay to your response we have provided this below.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 your Trust how many patients have been treated, in the past 6 months January to June 2018 by diagnosed eye condition?**

**Of these patients how many are new to treatment [they have not previously received an injection / implant]?**

**If your Trust can not split by condition, please supply the total patients and total new patients. A new patient is one that has not previously received an injection in either eye for an ophthalmology condition.**

	Total Patients	New Patients	Lucentis (ranibizumab) Patients	Lucentis (ranibizumab) NEW Patients	Eylea (aflibercept) Patients	Eylea (aflibercept) NEW Patients	Other Patients (bevacizumab, Dexamathasone or	Other NEW Patients (bevacizumab, Dexamathasone



							Fluocinolone)	or Fluocinolone)
Total								
Wet Age Related Macular Degeneration (wAMD)								
Other conditions (DMO, RVO or mCNV)								

If you do not have full records an estimate would be helpful.

- A1 The Trust's pharmacy can identify the total number of each product supplied to ophthalmology patients but cannot confirm that the use is for wet age related macular degeneration as the Trust's pharmacy computer system does not hold diagnostic information: this may be recorded in individual patient notes – section 12 exemption as detailed above

Please note that the below table is for new patients classified as patients receiving the relevant medication with no dispensing of the same medication in the previous 12 months (Calendar year 2017).

	Total Patients	New Patients	Lucentis (ranibizumab) Patients	Lucentis (ranibizumab) NEW Patients	Eylea (aflibercept) Patients	Eylea (aflibercept) NEW Patients	Other Patients (bevacizumab, Dexamathasone or Fluocinolone)	Other NEW Patients (bevacizumab, Dexamathasone or Fluocinolone)
Total	3391	2009	896	206	337	89	492	408
Wet Age Related Macular Degeneration (wAMD)	<i>Section 12 exemption</i>							
Other conditions (DMO, RVO or mCNV)	<i>Section 12 exemption</i>							

\*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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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**