



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-380

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

Date: 10th October 2018

Tel: 01782 676474
Email FOI@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 27th September 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding headaches and chronic migraines.

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 questions 4 and 5 is not held centrally, but may be recorded in individual 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.

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 just the questions that 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 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 Does your Trust run a headache clinic? Yes/No

If YES how many per week/month [delete as appropriate]

A1 There are seven per week as subspecialty Headache clinics but every General Neurology clinic at UHNM will include referred patients with headache. There are at least twenty two general Neurology clinics each week but the number of headache patients in each is not recorded.

Q2 Does your Trust run a migraine clinic? Yes/No

If YES how many per week/month [delete as appropriate]

A2 There are seven per week (as above) as migraine is just one of type of headache disorder. At least two of the General Neurology clinics are specific for Migraine only.

Every General Neurology clinic is likely to have patients with migraine in it. There are at least twenty two General Neurology clinics each week but the number of migraine patients in each is not recorded.

Q3 Does your Trust run a botulinum A [Botox] clinics (regardless of any indication or department)? Yes/No

A3 Yes

Q4 In the past 6 months how many patients have been treated for chronic migraine?

A4 Section 12 as detailed above.

Q5 Could you please provide me with the following numbers of patients treated in the last 6 months, with the following drugs for Chronic Migraine? If none, please state none.

- Botox
- Dysport
- Xeomin
- Topiramate / anticonvulsant
- Beta-blocker
- Calcium channel blocker
- Anti-serotonergic
- Tricyclic anti-depressant

A5 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.

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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 676474.

Yours,



Leah Carlisle
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance