

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-607

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

Date: 8th February 2019

Email FOI@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 16th January 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding MS Disease Modifying Drug Treatments.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because some of the information requested in your question 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 drugs dispensed 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 (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)**
- **Brabio (glatiramer acetate)**
- **Cladribine (Mavenclad)**
- **Copaxone (glatiramer acetate)**
- **Daclizumab (Zinbryta)**
- **Extavia (beta interferon-1b)**
- **Gilenya (fingolimod)**
- **Lemtrada (alemtuzumab)**

- **Ocrevus (Ocrelizumab)**
- **Peginterferon beta-1a (Plegridy)**
- **Rebif (beta interferon-1a)**
- **Tecfidera (dimethyl fumarate)**
- **Tysabri (natalizumab)**
- **Others**
- **Ampyra (Fampyra)**

A1 Section 12 exemption as detailed above: please note patient diagnosis is not held within pharmacy systems. Information provided relates to patients treated under Neurology speciality in latest 6 month period (July 2018 to December 2018).

Name of Drug	No. of Patients
Aubagio (teriflunomide)	16
Avonex (interferon beta-1a)	35
Betaferon (interferon beta-1b)	3
Brabio (glatiramer acetate)	0
Cladribine (Mavenclad)	13
Copaxone (glatiramer acetate)	65
Daclizumab (Zinbryta)	0
Extavia (beta interferon-1b)	0
Gilenya (fingolimod)	77
Lemtrada (alemtuzumab)	31
Ocrevus (Ocrelizumab)	0
Peginterferon beta-1a (Plegridy)	42
Rebif (beta interferon-1a)	54
Tecfidera (dimethyl fumarate)	158
Tysabri (natalizumab)	259
Others	0
Ampyra (Fampyra)	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 676474.

Yours,



Leah Carlisle
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance