



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-461

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

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019

Email [foi@uhnm.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhnm.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 (received into our office 7<sup>th</sup> November) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding independent homecare provider.

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 Question for your pharmacy and/or procurement team regarding the number of medicines and/or nursing services provided to NHS patients by an Independent Homecare Provider**

**1. In your organisation, which named individuals have the overall responsibility for any homecare provision for your patients?**

A1 The Chief Pharmacist at the University Hospital of North Midlands is the responsible officer for Homecare services. This is in line with Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 'Handbook for Homecare Services in England'.

**Q2 Do you currently have in post an operational lead for homecare services in your organisation – If so, what is their name/role?**

A2 Advanced Specialist Pharmacist for homecare and high cost drugs.

**Q3 What are your organisations minimum requirements for accepting a homecare provider?**

A3 Where possible, pharma-funded homecare services are adopted whereby a contract is in place between the manufacturer and homecare provider. Whereby there is not a pharma-funded service available, a provider outlined within the regional HealthTrust Europe framework is utilised.

**Q4 If you have an outsourced outpatient pharmacy, are they able to provide nurse services / training for patients on how to self-inject for medicines administered by sub-cutaneous injection as part of their contract?**

A4 Training for self-administration of injectable medicines is not included in the outsourced pharmacy contract.

**Q5 Can you please advise of total numbers of NHS patients who;**

**Received a homecare delivery service of drug and/or nurse service at dates Jan 2018 / Jan 2019 / October 2019 – please provide these numbers by;**

- a. **Drug name**
- b. **Therapy / clinical area**
- c. **By drug the name of the homecare provider who provided/provides this service**
- d. **If possible please identify if these services are NHS funded or pharmaceutical / manufacturer funded services**

A5 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.

*This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.*

Please see below for an estimated number of patients processed through the pharmacy computer system at the requested time points. We are unable to confirm the accuracy as the information extracted from the pharmacy computer system is not representative of real time data.

Homecare Company	Drug	Therapy Area	Pharma - Funded / NHS-Funded	No. of patients – Jan 18	No. of patients – Jan 19	No. of patients – Oct 19
Fresenius	Darbopoetin-alpha	Renal	NHS-Funded	0	0	279
Healthcare at Home	Etanercept	Dermatology	Pharma - Funded	0	<5	0
Healthcare at Home	Icatibant	Immunology	Pharma - Funded	<5	<5	<5
Healthcare at Home	Advate®	Haematology	NHS-Funded	0	0	<5
Healthcare at Home	Benefix®	Haematology	NHS-Funded	0	0	0
Healthcare at Home	Alprolix®	Haematology	NHS-Funded	0	0	0

Healthcare at Home	Trastuzumab (Intravenous)	Oncology	NHS-Funded	0	0	<5
Healthcare at Home	Trastuzumab (Subcutaneous)	Oncology	NHS-Funded	0	0	18
Healthcare at Home	C1-Esterase	Immunology	Pharma - Funded	7	5	<5
Healthcare at Home	Adalimumab	Dermatology & Gastroenterology	Pharma - Funded	174	170	204
Healthcare at Home	Methotrexate	Dermatology & Gastroenterology	NHS-Funded	0	<5	<5
Healthcare at Home	Imatinib	Oncology	NHS-Funded	<5	<5	<5
Healthcare at Home	Eculizumab	Renal	Pharma - Funded	<5	<5	<5
Healthcare at Home	Lanreotide	Endocrinology	Pharma - Funded	<5	<5	0
HealthNet	Dupilimumab	Dermatology	Pharma - Funded	0	5	19
Lloyds Pharmacy Clinical Homecare	Secukinumab	Dermatology	Pharma - Funded	18	13	22
Lloyds Pharmacy Clinical Homecare	Ustekinumab	Dermatology & Gastroenterology	Pharma - Funded	21	18	46
Lloyds Pharmacy Clinical Homecare	Ivacaftor	Respiratory	Pharma - Funded	0	0	0
Lloyds Pharmacy Clinical Homecare	Immunoglobulin (Intravenous)	Immunology	NHS-Funded	0	0	<5
Lloyds Pharmacy Clinical Homecare	Immunoglobulin (Subcutaneous)	Immunology	NHS-Funded	0	9	16
Lloyds Pharmacy Clinical Homecare	Teriflunomide	Neurology	Pharma - Funded	15	12	15
Lloyds	Glatiramer	Neurology	Pharma	60	52	10

Pharmacy Clinical Homecare	Acetate		- Funded			
Lloyds Pharmacy Clinical Homecare	Interferon beta-1b	Neurology	Pharma - Funded	<5	<5	<5
Lloyds Pharmacy Clinical Homecare	Interferon beta-1a	Neurology	Pharma - Funded	79	64	55
Lloyds Pharmacy Clinical Homecare	Fingolimod	Neurology	Pharma - Funded	58	64	70
Lloyds Pharmacy Clinical Homecare	Peg Interferon beta-1a	Neurology	Pharma - Funded	39	27	24
Polarspeed	Pirfenidone	Respiratory	Pharma - Funded	5	13	19
Polarspeed	Nintedanib	Respiratory	Pharma - Funded	<5	21	18
Alcura	Somatropin	Endocrinology	Pharma - Funded	6	<5	9
Alcura	Dimethyl Fumarate	Neurology	Pharma - Funded	131	124	136

\*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.

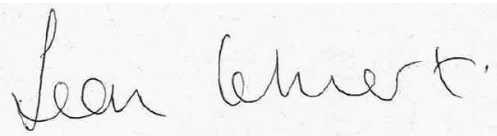
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and 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,



Jean Lehnert  
**Information Governance Manager**