

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-299

Date: 27th October 2020

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 19th October 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding head and neck cancer.

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 I am researching the incidence and treatment of Head & Neck Cancer (H&N) and Renal Cancer (RCC). Could you please answer the following questions for patients treated by your Trust?

1. Within your health Trust, how many patients have been treated in the past 3 months for head and neck cancer (squamous cell carcinoma)? Of these patients, how many are locally advanced, recurrent and/or metastatic?

- **Total squamous cell carcinoma**
- **Locally advanced**
- **Recurrent and/or metastatic**

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 as being <5.

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed. Please see below:

First definitive treatment for new primary cancer	20
Anti Cancer Drug (Cytotoxic Chemotherapy)	<5
Enabling Treatment	<5
Non-Specialist Palliative Care (excl Active Monitoring)	<5
Specialist Palliative Care	<5
Surgery	13
Second or subsequent treatment for new primary cancer	14
Anti Cancer Drug (Cytotoxic Chemotherapy)	<5

Chemoradiotherapy	6
Non-Specialist Palliative Care (excl Active Monitoring)	<5
Teletherapy (Beam Radiation excl. Proton Therapy)	<5
Treatment for a distant Recurrence of Cancer (metastatic disease)	<5
Specialist Palliative Care	<5
Teletherapy (Beam Radiation excl. Proton Therapy)	<5
Treatment for a local recurrence of a primary cancer	>5
Surgery	<5

Q2 For the metastatic head and neck cancer patients treated in the past 3 months, could you specify (if possible) how many received first-line treatment versus second-line treatment?

A2 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 as being <5 for patients that received treatment for metastatic disease; <5 specialist palliative care and <5 teletherapy (radiotherapy)

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

Q3 Within your health Trust, how many patients have been treated in the past 3 months for head and neck cancer (squamous cell carcinoma) with the following agents?

- Carboplatin (monotherapy or in combination with 5-FU)
- Cisplatin (monotherapy or in combination with 5-FU)
- Cetuximab with/without chemotherapy
- Cetuximab with radiotherapy
- Pembrolizumab monotherapy
- Pembrolizumab with chemotherapy
- Nivolumab
- Docetaxel (monotherapy or in combination with 5-FU)
- Fluorouracil (5FU)
- Radiotherapy only
- Other

A3 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 as being <5

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed. Please see below:

- Carboplatin (monotherapy or in combination with 5-FU) = 10*
- Cisplatin (monotherapy or in combination with 5-FU) = 7*
- Cetuximab with/without chemotherapy = 0
- Cetuximab with radiotherapy = 0
- Pembrolizumab monotherapy = 0
- Pembrolizumab with chemotherapy = 0
- Nivolumab = <5
- Docetaxel (monotherapy or in combination with 5-FU) = 9*
- Fluorouracil (5FU) = 0
- Radiotherapy only
- Other = 0

*Some patients have received a combination of these treatments and may therefore be included in the numbers for more than one

Q4 Within your health Trust, how many patients have been treated in the past 3 months with the following agents for renal cell carcinoma?

- **Sunitinib**
- **Avelumab + Axitinib**
- **Axinitib**
- **Cabozantinib**
- **Everolimus**
- **Lenvantinib + Everolimus**
- **Nivolumab**
- **Nivolumab + Ipilimumab**
- **Pazopanib**
- **Pembrolizumab + Axitinib**
- **Sunitinib**
- **Temsirolimus**
- **Tivozanib**
- **Other**

A4 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 as being <5

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed. Please see below:

- Sunitinib = 7
- Avelumab + Axitinib = 0
- Axinitib = 0
- Cabozantinib = 12
- Everolimus = <5
- Lenvantinib + Everolimus = 0
- Nivolumab = 9
- Nivolumab + Ipilimumab = <5
- Pazopanib = 8

- Pembrolizumab + Axitinib = 0
- Sunitinib – See Above
- Temsirolimus = 0
- Tivozanib = 12
- Other = 0

Q5 Does your Trust participate in any on-going clinical trials for the treatment of head and neck cancer? If so, can you please provide the name of each trial along with the number of patients taking part?

A5 We do not have any head & neck clinical trials at the current time

Q6 Does your Trust participate in any on-going clinical trials for the treatment of renal cell carcinoma? If so, can you please provide the name of each trial along with the number of patients taking part?

A6 As answer 5

*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.

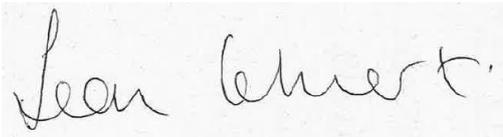
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and 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 671612.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Jean Lehnert" in a cursive, slightly slanted script.

Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager