

Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-562

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 5th January 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Oesophageal and Gastric cancer

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 I am researching the incidence and treatment of oesophageal and gastric cancer. I would greatly appreciate if you could answer the following questions.**

**Q1. Please provide the total number of patients treated in the last 3 months with any systemic anti-cancer therapy for:**

- **Oesophageal cancer (any type or stage)**
- **Oesophageal adenocarcinoma (any stage)**
- **Oesophageal squamous cell carcinoma (any stage)**
- **Gastric cancer (any type or stage)**
- **Cancer of the gastro-oesophageal junction (any stage)**

A1 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 this 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 individual 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 individual health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

**Q2 How many patients were treated in the past 3 months for gastric and gastro-oesophageal junction cancer (any stage) with:**

- **CAPOX (Capecitabine with Oxaliplatin)**
- **FOLFOX (Folinic acid, Fluorouracil and Oxaliplatin)**

- **Lonsurf (Trifluridine - tipiracil)**
- **Pembrolizumab in combination with Platinum (Cisplatin or Oxaliplatin) and Fluoropyrimidine (5-Fluorouracil or Capecitabine)**
- **Any other systemic anti-cancer therapy**
- **Palliative care only**

A2 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 this 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 individual 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 individual health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

**Q3 How many patients were treated in the past 3 months for Oesophageal cancer (any stage) with?**

- **Pembrolizumab in combination with Platinum (Cisplatin or Oxaliplatin) and Fluoropyrimidine (5-Fluorouracil or Capecitabine)**
- **Platinum and Fluoropyrimidine based combination treatments (Cisplatin or Oxaliplatin with 5-Fluorouracil or Capecitabine)**
- **Nivolumab monotherapy**
- **Nivolumab and Ipilimumab**
- **Any other systemic anti-cancer therapy**
- **Palliative care only**

A3 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 this 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 individual 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 individual health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

**Q4 Of the Oesophageal Cancer patients (from Q3) treated with Pembrolizumab in the past 3 months, how many patients were treated for?**

- **Oesophageal adenocarcinoma**
- **Oesophageal squamous cell carcinoma**

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**Q5 How many patients were treated in the past 3 months for advanced/metastatic oesophageal cancer ONLY with?**

- **Pembrolizumab in combination with Platinum (Cisplatin or Oxaliplatin) and Fluoropyrimidene (5-Fluorouracil or Capecitabine)**
- **Platinum and Fluoropyrimidene based combination treatments (Cisplatin or Oxaliplatin with 5-Fluorouracil or Capecitabine)**
- **Nivolumab monotherapy**
- **Nivolumab and Ipilimumab**
- **Any other systemic anti-cancer therapy**
- **Palliative care only**

A5 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 this 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 individual 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 individual health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

\*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 671612.

Yours,



**Rachel Montinaro**  
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records