



Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-207

**Royal Stoke University Hospital**  
**Data, Security and Protection**  
Newcastle Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST4 6QG

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> August 2022

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 14th July 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL).

**The University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust is committed to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.**

**However, the NHS is facing unprecedented challenges relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic at the current time. Understandably, our resources have been diverted to support our front-line colleagues who are working tremendously hard to provide care for our patients, and to those in need of our services.**

**We strive to be transparent and to work with an open culture. But at this time, whilst care of our patients and the safety of our staff takes precedent, it is likely that responses to some requests for information will be delayed. We apologise for this position in advance, and will endeavour to provide you with as much information as we can, as soon as we are able.**

**The Information Commissioners Office has recognised the current situation in the NHS.**

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 Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL). Could you please answer the following questions?**

**Q1. Does your Trust treat patients with Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL)? If not, then which Trust do you refer DLBCL patients to?**

**A1** Yes, we do treat DLBCL patients but may transfer for certain treatments, note: If we were transferring for treatment for DLBCL patients we would be sending to the Christie or Queen Elizabeth, however this is rare that we transfer

**Q2 In the last 6 months, how many patients have you treated for Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL)?**

A2 Over the period 01.01.2022 to 30.06.2022 there were 23 treatments recorded for Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL). 15 of these were first treatments and 8 were second or subsequent treatments

**Q3 In the last 6 months, how many patients have you treated for Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) with the following treatments:**

- **R-CHOP (rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin hydrochloride, vincristine and prednisolone)**
- **R-mini-CHOP (rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin hydrochloride, vincristine and prednisolone)**
- **Other immuno-chemotherapy**
- **Other chemotherapy**
- **Stem cell transplant or bone marrow transplant (autologous or allogeneic)**
- **Pola-BR (polatuzumab vedotin with rituximab and bendamustine) - any line of treatment**
- **Pola-BR (polatuzumab vedotin with rituximab and bendamustine) - third-line treatment only**
- **Tisagenlecleucel**
- **Axicabtagene ciloleucel**
- **Lisocabtagene maraleucel**

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) 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. See below;*

- R-CHOP (rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin hydrochloride, vincristine and prednisolone) = 20
- R-mini-CHOP (rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin hydrochloride, vincristine and prednisolone) = <5
- Other immuno-chemotherapy = <5
- Other chemotherapy = 7
- Stem cell transplant or bone marrow transplant (autologous or allogeneic) = <5
- Pola-BR (polatuzumab vedotin with rituximab and bendamustine) - any line of treatment = 0
- Pola-BR (polatuzumab vedotin with rituximab and bendamustine) - third-line treatment only = 5
- Tisagenlecleucel = 0
- Axicabtagene ciloleucel = 0
- Lisocabtagene maraleucel = 0

**Q4 In the last 6 months, how many Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) patients have you referred to other Trusts for:**

- **Stem cell transplant or bone marrow transplant (autologous or allogeneic)**

- **CAR-T therapy (Tisagenlecleucel, Axicabtegene ciloleucel, Lisocabtagene maraleucel)**

A4 None

**Q5 Do you participate in any active clinical trials for Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL)? If so, can you please provide the name of each trial along with the number of patients taking part?**

A5 1 Trial with <5 patients

\*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.

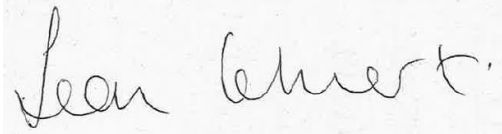
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature reads "Jean Lehnert" in a cursive script.

Jean Lehnert  
**Data, Security & Protection Manager**