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Request for Information Reference: 03.20.17

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Email only

18 June 2020

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information**

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Firstly please accept my sincere apologies for the time taken to respond. Your request was in relation to Migraines and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

### **1. Does the hospital/hospitals treat chronic migraine?**

Yes.

### **2. Total number of unique patients treated in the last 12 months for migraine**

### **3. Total number of unique chronic migraine patients treated in the last 12 months**

Due to the following reasons it is not possible to provide a full response for these questions:

- There are specific clinical codes assigned against a patient during their admission to the Trust. Outpatient appointments however are not coded unless a patient has a procedure in clinic – therefore this data is not able to be provided.
- There is no specific code used for chronic migraines, there is a main migraine code along with a few other specialist codes – a response based on the main migraine code has been provided.

The Trust can confirm that in 2019 there were 217 inpatients recorded with a primary diagnosis of migraine. Of these 217, 216 were unique patients.

**4. Does the trust actively inject chronic migraine patients (as opposed to sending to another hospital for injections)?**

Patients are referred to specialist service based at RVI Newcastle.

**5. Total number of chronic migraine patients treated in the last 12 months with the following:**

- a. Botulinum Toxin (i.e. Botox, Dysport, Xeomin)**
- b. Ajoovy (Fremanezumab)**
- c. Aimovig (Erenumab)**
- d. Emgality (Galcanezumab)**

Due to the limitations of the clinical coding The Trust is only able to confirm that there was 1 inpatient during 2019, from the sample of 217 provided in answer to questions 2 and 3, who was treated for migraine with botulinum toxin.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I am sorry that I have not been able to provide all of the information you requested, however I hope that my explanation as to why this is not possible has been satisfactory. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs).

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

**Joanna Tyrrell**  
Freedom of Information Officer