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Request for Information Reference: 07.20.15

Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net
Email only

10 August 2020

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 13 July 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.

Your request was in relation to treatment of atopic dermatitis and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

I am conducting some research into the treatment of Atopic dermatitis in the UK, and how this compares with other countries in Europe.

1. First, could you tell me how many Atopic dermatitis patients have been treated by your Trust in the latest four months that you have data available for, and how many of these patients were paediatric versus adult?

The Trust is unable to identify the number of patients, adults or children, treated with this condition as this information is not stored electronically and it would require a member of staff to manually examine hundreds of sets of patient notes to determine if a patient had been treated for atopic dermatitis. Therefore, the Trust is refusing this section of your request for information pursuant to Section 12 of the Act on the grounds that we estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit at the present time is £450.00 which equates to eighteen hours of work by a member of staff at the rate of £25 per hour.

2. Second, for all Atopic dermatitis patients (adult plus paediatric) treated by your Trust in the latest four months, could you please provide the number of patients treated with each of the following:

- High Potency topical steroids
- Ultraviolet light therapy

- **Azathioprine**
- **Ciclosporin**
- **Methotrexate**
- **Mycophenolate mofetil**
- **Acitretin**
- **Alitretinoin**
- **Dupilumab**
- **Upadacitinib**
- **Tacrolimus**
- **Pimecrolimus**

There have been 62 adult Atopic dermatitis patients treated with Dupilumab during the last four months.

The Trust is unable to identify the number of patients (adults and children) treated with the other medications as this information is not stored electronically and it would require a member of staff to manually examine hundreds of sets of patient notes to determine if a patient had been treated for atopic dermatitis and what they had been treated with. Therefore, the Trust is refusing this section of your request for information pursuant to Section 12 of the Act on the grounds that we estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit at the present time is £450.00 which equates to eighteen hours of work by a member of staff at the rate of £25 per hour.

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 hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. 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.

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.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer