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Request for Information Reference: 07.20.32

Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

18 August 2020

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 21 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 Psoriasis and Psoriatic arthritis and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

- 1. Please detail the number of patients currently prescribed apremilast with a current primary diagnosis of: a) Psoriasis b) Psoriatic Arthritis?**

Psoriasis	Psoriatic Arthritis
33	57

- 2. Of the patients prescribed apremilast in the last 12 months for Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis, what number of patients received treatment with targeted small molecules or biologic therapies* prior to beginning treatment with apremilast?**

The Trust does not centrally record this information and estimates that it would take a number of weeks to gather the information requested. In order to gather this information it would require a member of staff to manually examine hundreds of sets of patient notes. Therefore, we are 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.

3. How many small molecule- and/ or biologic-naive patients in the Trust are currently receiving a conventional non-biologic systemic therapy for Psoriasis or a conventional non-biologic disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD) for Psoriatic Arthritis?

The Trust does not centrally record this information and estimates that it would take a number of weeks to gather the information requested. In order to gather this information it would require a member of staff to manually examine hundreds of sets of patient notes. Therefore, we are 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.

4. Is CCG prior-approval required for the prescribing of apremilast? Y/ N? If yes, please tick the system you use: Blueteq? Other?

No, CCG prior approval is not required for the prescribing of apremilast.

5. If other, what system do you use?

N/A.

6. Is apremilast listed individually or grouped with biologic therapies on the prior-approval form for Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis?

Psoriasis: Individually? Or grouped?

N/A.

Psoriatic Arthritis: Individually? Or grouped?

N/A, a prior approval form is not used.

7. Please provide the wording used on the CCG's prior-approval form for the prescribing of apremilast?

N/A.

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