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Request for Information Reference: 09.20.33

Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

20 October 2020

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 22 September 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 biologic drugs and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

Could you help me with the following queries about biologic drugs?

Q1. Could you please provide the numbers of patients treated in the last 3 months by the Dermatology department (for any medical condition) with the following biologic drugs:

- **Adalimumab – Humira:** 18
- **Adalimumab Biosimilar:** 87
- **Apremilast:** 23
- **Brodalumab:** 0
- **Certolizumab:** 1
- **Dimethyl fumarate:** 14
- **Etanercept – Enbrel:** 0
- **Etanercept Biosimilar:** 5
- **Guselkumab:** 20
- **Infliximab – Remicade:** 0
- **Infliximab Biosimilar:** N/A
- **Ixekizumab:** 9
- **Risankizumab:** 0
- **Secukinumab:** 52
- **Tildrakizumab:** 0

• **Ustekinumab**

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Data on IV infliximab usage is not available from the Pharmacy stock control system at clinical speciality level. Obtaining this data would require a manual review of all patient notes. To determine figures for this treatment the individual patient files of all patients who have attended the services in the time period would need to be reviewed. To collate the data would exceed the permitted timescale within the act 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 and quarter hours of work by a member of staff at the rate of £25 per hour.

Q2. For the patients treated by the Dermatology department in the last three months with any of the above drugs, can you please provide the total number of paediatric (up to age 16) versus adult patients?

Zero.

Q3. Could you please provide the numbers of patients treated in the last 3 months by the Gastroenterology department (for any medical condition) with the following biologic drugs:

- **Adalimumab – Humira:** 10
- **Adalimumab Biosimilar:** 65
- **Golimumab:** 1
- **Infliximab – Remicade:** 0
- **Infliximab Biosimilar:** 5 – subcutaneous formulation only
- **Tofacitinib:** 0
- **Ustekinumab:** 7
- **Vedolizumab:** 13 – subcutaneous formulation only

Figures for IV vedolizumab and IV infliximab are not available from the Pharmacy stock-control system at clinical speciality level. Obtaining that information would mean a manual examination of all patient notes. Please note that the Trust has not been able to provide a figure for Dermatology Infliximab Biosimilar, Gastro IV Infliximab Biosimilar or Gastro IV Vedolizumab. This is due to the information not being recorded centrally. To determine figures for these treatments the individual patient files of all patients who have attended the services in the time period would need to be reviewed. To collate the data would exceed the permitted timescale within the act 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 and quarter 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 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.

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