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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Tracy Myhill**

gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser
caring for each other, working together, always improving

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 8th September 2020
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 20-G-025

☎ 01639 648363

✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

Corporate Services
Headquarters
1 Talbot Gateway
Baglan
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Dear

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 21st July 2020. Your request sought information relating to Psoriasis Treatment.

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

There are various supply methods for apremilast within Swansea Bay Health Board, which includes supply via Homecare companies (managed via Secondary Care), prescribing via GPs and also via WP10(HP) prescriptions from Secondary Care specialists. Therefore we don't hold patient numbers as a total. Please see below for a break down.

Primary Care for the period 01.06.19 to 31.05.20

Within Primary Care prescribing of WP10 and WP10(HP)s we cannot differentiate the diagnosis for the prescriptions. Therefore we have only provided total prescription numbers for apremilast – we cannot provide patient numbers as this would require review of prescribing information within each individual practice.

WP10 Prescription Numbers (GP Prescribing) - 237

WP10(HP) Prescription Numbers - 157

Secondary Care for period 01.06.19 to 31.05.20

Within Secondary Care prescribing, we cannot differentiate the diagnosis for the prescriptions, but can as far as the speciality. Therefore we have provided patient numbers for Dermatology as a whole.



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

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Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

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? (*See annex 1 for a list of small molecule/biologic therapies)

This prescribing data is not held centrally within Primary Care.

From a Secondary Care perspective, no patients that are prescribed apremilast were previously prescribed any of the medicines listed in annex 1.

3. How many small molecule and/or biologic-naive patients in the Health Board 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? (e.g. methotrexate)

Therapy	No. of patients receiving the specified therapy	
]Psoriasis	Psoriatic Arthritis
Systemic therapies		
Disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs)		

This information is not held centrally. To obtain this information would involve a manual trawl and search of prescription records which we have estimated would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI Act as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOI Act provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

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

You clarified on 26th August 2020 that by "CCG" you are referring to NHS England's Clinical Commissioning Groups.

No – this is not applicable within NHS Wales Health Boards.

We do not use a prior-approval process – all initial prescriptions require a screen by a clinical pharmacist to ensure they meet NICE criteria.

5. If other, what system do you use?

Not applicable



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

Psoriasis: Individually **grouped**

Psoriatic Arthritis: Individually **grouped**

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

*Annex 1
abatacept (Orencia®)
adalimumab (Amgevita®, Humira®, Hyrimoz® or Imraldi®)
brodalumab (Siliq®)
certolizumab (Cimzia®)
etanercept (Benepali®)
golimumab (Simponi®)
guselkumab (Tremfya®)
infliximab (Remicade®)
ixekizumab (Taltz®)
risankizumab (Skyrizi®)
secukinumab (Cosentyx®)
tildrakizumab (Ilumya®)
tofacitinib (Xeljanz®)
ustekinumab (Stelara®)

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.



If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

