Cais Rhyddid Gwybodaeth / Freedom of Information request
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 23-A-036

You asked:

Our company are analysing the usage of biologic and biosimilar products within Rheumatology. Please can you answer the following questions:

Please note the figures below relate to the 3 month period October to December 2022.

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

- **Abatacept [Orencia]** – 80 * Also issued as stock to the rheumatology day unit
- **Adalimumab [Humira]** - 71
- **Adalimumab Biosimilars** - 357
- **Apremilast [Otezla]** - 25
- **Baricitinib [Olumiant]** - 108
- **Certolizumab [Cimzia]** - 40
- **Etanercept [Enbrel]** - 86
- **Etanercept Biosimilars** - 287
- **Filgotinib [Jyseleca]** - 44
- **Golimumab [Simponi]** - 23
- **Guselkumab [Tremfya]** - 0
- **Infliximab [Remicade]** – 0 *Issued as stock to the rheumatology day unit – patient-level information not available
- **Infliximab Biosimilars** – 0 *Issued as stock to the rheumatology day unit – patient-level information not available
- **Ixekizumab [Taltz]** - 10
- **Risankizumab [Skyrizi]** - <5**
- **Rituximab [MabThera]** - <5**
- **Rituximab Biosimilars** – 0 *Issued as stock to the rheumatology day unit – patient-level information not available
- **Sarilumab [Kevzara]** - <5**
- **Secukinumab [Cosentyx]** - 64

- **Tocilizumab [Ro Actemra]** – 96 *Also issued as stock to the rheumatology day unit – patient-level information not available
- **Tofacitinib [Xeljanz]** - 15
- **Upadacitinib [Rinvoq]** - 65
- **Ustekinumab [Stelara]** – 10

Q2. Could you please provide the numbers of patients treated for Axial Spondyloarthritis ONLY in the last 3 months with the following drugs.

Due to the way that our Pharmacy systems record information, we can only provide numbers of Axial Spondyloarthritis patients whose medication is dispensed via Homecare, not those receiving treatment within a hospital site. Therefore, the true number of patients will be higher.

To obtain the information for those receiving treatment within a hospital site would involve a manual trawl and search of patient 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 and The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 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.

- **Adalimumab [Humira]** - 0
- **Adalimumab Biosimilars** - <5**
- **Certolizumab [Cimzia]** - 0
- **Etanercept [Enbrel]** - 0
- **Etanercept Biosimilars** - <5**
- **Golimumab [Simponi]** - 0
- **Infliximab [Remicade]** - 0 *Issued as stock to the rheumatology day unit – patient-level and indication-level information not available
- **Infliximab Biosimilars** - 0 *Issued as stock to the rheumatology day unit – patient-level and indication-level information not available
- **Ixekizumab [Taltz]** - <5**
- **Secukinumab [Cosentyx]** - 0
- **Tofacitinib [Xeljanz]** - 0
- **Upadacitinib [Rinvoq]** - 0

**Where fewer than 5 has been indicated we are unable to provide you with the exact number of patients as due to the low numbers, there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This information is protected by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute as unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.