Reference:	FOI.13517.24
Subject:	Biologic and biosimilar products
Date of Request:	5 January 2024

Requested:

1. 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]
    - Adalimumab [Humira]
    - Adalimumab Biosimilars
    - Apremilast [Otezla]
    - Baricitinib [Olumiant]
    - Bimekizumab [Bimzelx]
    - Certolizumab [Cimzia]
    - Etanercept [Enbrel]
    - Etanercept Biosimilars
    - Filgotinib [Jyseleca]
    - Golimumab [Simponi]
    - Guselkumab [Tremfya]
    - Infliximab [Remicade]
    - Infliximab Biosimilars
    - Ixekizumab [Taltz]
    - Risankizumab [Skyrizi]
    - Rituximab [MabThera]
    - Rituximab Biosimilars
    - Sarilumab [Kevzara]
    - Secukinumab [Cosentyx]
    - Tocilizumab [Ro Actemra]
    - Tocilizumab Biosimilars
    - Tofacitinib [Xeljanz]
    - Upadacitinib [Rinvoq]
    - Ustekinumab [Stelara]

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

    - Adalimumab [Humira]
    - Adalimumab Biosimilars
    - Certolizumab [Cimzia]
    - Etanercept [Enbrel]
    - Etanercept Biosimilars
    - Golimumab [Simponi]
    - Infliximab [Remicade]
    - Infliximab Biosimilars
    - Ixekizumab [Taltz]
    - Secukinumab [Cosentyx]
    - Tofacitinib [Xeljanz]

- Upadacitinib [Rinvoq]

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the information requested for question 2, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The "appropriate limit" represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

In order to provide you with the data requested, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all identified prescriptions and cross reference with the patient's medical record to identify the reason for treatment.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), which provides an exemption from a public authority's obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

However, under section 16 of the FoIA, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds for question 1 below.

1. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of Rheumatology patients, treated for any condition, with the listed medications, during the period 1 October to 31 December 2023.

Medication	Number
Abatacept [Orencia]	103
Adalimumab [Humira]	13
Adalimumab Biosimilars	248
Apremilast [Otezla]	29
Baricitinib [Olumiant]	80
Bimekizumab [Bimzelx]	0
Certolizumab [Cimzia]	42
Etanercept [Enbrel]	25
Etanercept Biosimilars	186
Filgotinib [Jyseleca]	6
Golimumab [Simponi]	30
Guselkumab [Tremfya]	0
Infliximab [Remicade]	0
Infliximab Biosimilars	20
Ixekizumab [Taltz]	9
Risankizumab [Skyrizi]	0
Rituximab [MabThera]	0
Rituximab Biosimilars	23
Sarilumab [Kevzara]	*
Secukinumab [Cosentyx]	42
Tocilizumab [Ro Actemra]	79
Tocilizumab Biosimilars	0
Tofacitinib [Xeljanz]	6
Upadacitinib [Rinvoq]	14

Ustekinumab [Stelara	15

Where the figure in the table has been replaced with an asterisk (*), the UHB is unable to provide you with the exact number of patients due to the low number of cases (less than 5), as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the FoIA. This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)/UK General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR), as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles of the UK GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the DPA and UK GDPR define personal data as data that relates to a living individual who can be identified solely from that data or from that data and other information, which is in the possession of the data controller.