Reference:	FOI.12641.23
Subject:	Biologic medicines in Dermatology
Date of Request:	11 September 2023

Requested:

1. How many patients were treated in the last 3 months by the Dermatology department (for any medical condition) with the following biologic drugs:

    - Adalimumab - Humira
    - Adalimumab Biosimilar
    - Apremilast
    - Bimekizumab
    - Brodalumab
    - Certolizumab
    - Deucravacitinib
    - Dimethyl fumarate
    - Etanercept - Enbrel
    - Etanercept Biosimilar
    - Guselkumab
    - Infliximab - Remicade
    - Infliximab Biosimilar
    - Ixekizumab
    - Risankizumab
    - Secukinumab
    - Tildrakizumab
    - Ustekinumab

2. How many patients were treated in the last 3 months by the Dermatology department for Psoriasis ONLY in the last three months with the following:

    - Ciclosporin
    - Methotrexate - any form and strength
    - Methotrexate injections 15mg and above

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 Dermatology patient records and cross-reference with the Pharmacy system, for the requested period, to identify the information requested, as it is not recorded centrally.

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 overleaf, the number of Dermatology patients, treated for any condition with the listed medications, during the period 1 June to 31 August 2023.

Medication	Number
Adalimumab - Humira	*
Adalimumab Biosimilar	72
Apremilast	9
Bimekizumab	0
Brodalumab	*
Certolizumab	*
Deucravacitinib	0
Dimethyl fumarate	*
Etanercept - Enbrel	0
Etanercept Biosimilar	*
Guselkumab	*
Infliximab - Remicade	0
Infliximab Biosimilar	*
Ixekizumab	*
Risankizumab	10
Secukinumab	26
Tildrakizumab	*
Ustekinumab	20

Where the figures in the table have been replaced with an asterisk (*), the UHB is unable to provide you with the exact number of patients due to the low numbers 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.