Reference:	FOI.12806.23
Subject:	Biologic medicines in gastroenterology
Date of Request:	4 October 2023

Requested:

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

    - Adalimumab - Humira
    - Adalimumab Biosimilar
    - Filgotinib
    - Golimumab
    - Infliximab - Remicade
    - Infliximab Biosimilar
    - Mirikizumab
    - Ozanimod
    - Risankizumab
    - Tofacitinib
    - Upadacitinib
    - Ustekinumab
    - Vedolizumab

2. If you are able to link patient treatment to a disease, could you please provide the number of patients treated in the last 3 months for Ulcerative Colitis ONLY with the following biologic drugs:

    - Adalimumab - Humira
    - Adalimumab Biosimilar
    - Filgotinib
    - Golimumab
    - Infliximab - Remicade
    - Infliximab Biosimilar
    - Mirikizumab
    - Ozanimod
    - Risankizumab
    - Tofacitinib
    - Upadacitinib
    - Ustekinumab
    - Vedolizumab

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides, within the table below, the number of UHB patients treated by the Gastroenterology Department, with the listed biologic medicines, during the period 1 July to 30 September 2023.

Medicine	Number
Adalimumab – Humira	13
Adalimumab Biosimilar	113
Filgotinib	10
Golimumab	0
Infliximab – Remicade	*
Infliximab Biosimilar	71
Mirikizumab	0
Ozanimod	*
Risankizumab	0
Tofacitinib	*
Upadacitinib	*
Ustekinumab	129
Vedolizumab (all forms)	82

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 Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA). This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)/UK General Data Protection Regulations, 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 defines 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.

2. The 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 and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate limit” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2 ½ 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 the records of the Gastroenterology patients identified in question 1 and cross-reference with the Pharmacy systems, to identify the information requested, as it is not recorded centrally.

   The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the 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.