

Reference:	FOI.6500.21
Subject:	Chronic Kidney Disease
Date of Request:	19 July 2021

Requested:

I am researching the incidence and treatment of Chronic Kidney Disease. I would greatly appreciate if you could answer the following questions.

1. How many patients have been treated in the last 6 months (for any disease) with the following products:
 - Aranesp & Aranesp SureClick (darbepoetin alpha)
 - Eprex (epoetin alfa)
 - NeoRecormon (epoetin beta)
 - Retacrit (epoetin zeta)
 - Mircera (methoxy polyethylene glycol-epoetin beta)
 - Ferinject (ferric carboxymaltose injection/infusion)
 - Diafer (ferric derisomaltose injection)
 - Monofer (ferric derisomaltose injection)
 - Cosmofer (iron dextran injection)
 - Venofer (iron sucrose injection)

2. In the past 6 months could you please state the number of patients treated for the following conditions:
 - Chronic kidney disease (ICD10 code – N.18)
 - Chronic kidney disease - Stages 4 & 5 (ICD10 codes – N.18.3 & N.18.4 & N.18.5)
 - Acquired cystic kidney disease (ICD10 code N28.1)
 - Chronic kidney disease – new patients (excluding previously treated patients)
 - Acquired cystic kidney disease - new patients (excluding previously treated patients)

3. Please indicate the number of patients treated in the last 6 months for chronic kidney disease ONLY with each of the following products:
 - Aranesp & Aranesp SureClick (darbepoetin alpha)
 - Eprex (epoetin alfa)
 - NeoRecormon (epoetin beta)
 - Retacrit (epoetin zeta)
 - Mircera (methoxy polyethylene glycol-epoetin beta)
 - Ferinject (ferric carboxymaltose injection/infusion)
 - Diafer (ferric derisomaltose injection)
 - Monofer (ferric derisomaltose injection)
 - Cosmofer (iron dextran injection)
 - Venofer (iron sucrose injection)

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides, within the table below, the number of patients treated with the medications provided during the period 1 January to 30 June 2021.

Medication	Number
Aranesp & Aranesp SureClick (darbepoetin alpha)	45
Eporex (epoetin alfa)	53
NeoRecormon (epoetin beta)	36
Retacrit (epoetin zeta)	0
Mircera (methoxy polyethylene glycol-epoetin beta)	31
Ferinject (ferric carboxymaltose injection/infusion)	441
Diafer (ferric derisomaltose injection)	0
Monofer (ferric derisomaltose injection)	0
Cosmofer (iron dextran injection)	*
Venofer (iron sucrose injection)	*

2. The UHB provides, within the table overleaf, the number of new patients treated for Chronic and Acquired Cystic Kidney Disease, during the period 11 November 2020 to 11 August 2021.

Please note: a nine month period has been provided as opposed to the six month period requested, to capture the data requested, due to a standard coding backlog of up to three months, due to the pandemic.

Disease	Number treated
Chronic kidney disease (ICD10 code – N.18)	7
Chronic kidney disease - Stages 4 & 5 (ICD10 codes – N.18.3 & N.18.4 & N.18.5)	*
Acquired cystic kidney disease (ICD10 code N28.1)	7

Where the figures in the tables 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 (5 and under), 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/General Data Protection Regulations 2016 (GDPR), as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles 6 and 9 of the GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore, there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the Data Protection Act 2018/General Data Protection Regulations 2016 defines personal data as data which 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.

3. The UHB is unable to provide you with the information requested, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate level” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Level) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate level” 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 requested information, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all patient records, to identify any information that fulfils your request.

Therefore, the UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, 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 level.