

Reference:	FOI.20391.26
Subject:	Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA)
Date of Request:	8 May 2026

Requested:

1. How many patients have a current diagnosis of Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA) (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) at your Trust?
2. How many patients have been newly diagnosed with Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA) (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) in the past 3 months?
3. How many patients were treated by the Rheumatology department for Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA) (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6)?
4. How many patients were treated by the rheumatology department in the past 3 months with the following:
 - Tocilizumab – for any disease
 - Tocilizumab for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) only
 - Tocilizumab for giant cell arteritis (GCA) only
5. How many patients were treated by the ophthalmology department (for any disease) in the past 3 months with Tocilizumab?
6. How many patients were treated in A&E in the past 3 months for giant cell arteritis (GCA) with Tocilizumab?
7. In the past 3 months, how many patients with a primary diagnosis of GCA (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) were:
 - Admitted as an inpatient
 - Treated in A&E

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms it had two hundred and thirty six (236) patients diagnosed with GCA, at 30 April 2026.
2. The UHB estimates, based on the number of patients on the Rheumatology follow up list for GCA, that seventeen (17) patients were newly diagnosed with GCA irrelevant of ICD codes, during the period 1 February to 30 April 2026.
3. The UHB confirms it was treating one hundred and forty-six (146) patients for GCA, as recorded on the UHB's Rheumatology treatment list, at 30 April 2026.
4. The UHB provides within the table overleaf, the number of patients treated by the Rheumatology department with the listed medications and indications, during the period 1 February to 30 April 2026.

Medication	Number
Tocilizumab – for any disease	82
Tocilizumab for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) only	65
Tocilizumab for giant cell arteritis (GCA) only	15

5. The UHB confirms that zero (0) patients were recorded on its Pharmacy system as being treated with Tocilizumab by the Ophthalmology Department for any condition, during the period 1 February to 30 April 2026.
1. The UHB confirms that zero (0) patients with GCA were recorded on its Pharmacy system as being treated with Tocilizumab in its Accident and Emergency (A&E) departments, during the period 1 February to 30 April 2026.
2. The UHB provides within the table below, the number of patients with a primary diagnosis of GCA admitted as an inpatient and treated in an Accident and Emergency (A&E) department, during the period 1 February to 30 April 2026.

Treatment type	Number
Admitted as an inpatient	8
Treated in A&E	6