Reference:	FOI.18096.25
Subject:	New biologic and targeted medications
Date of Request:	15 August 2025

Requested:

1. How many patients were treated in July 2025 (or latest available month) by the gastroenterology department with the following biologic drugs?
   - Etrasimod
   - Filgotinib
   - Golimumab
   - Mirikizumab
   - Ozanimod
   - Risankizumab
   - Tofacitinib
   - Upadacitinib
   - Ustekinumab (Stelara)
   - Ustekinumab Biosimilar
   - Vedolizumab

2. How many patients were treated in July 2025 (or latest available month) for Crohn's disease with the following biologic drugs?
   - Golimumab
   - Risankizumab
   - Upadacitinib
   - Ustekinumab (Stelara)
   - Ustekinumab Biosimilar
   - Vedolizumab

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 number of patients treated for Crohn's disease with the listed medications, the UHB would need to cross reference the patient details on each prescription, with the patient's medical record, to identify the reason for treatment.

The UHB has identified at least two hundred and twenty-one (221) patients who are receiving the biologic drugs named within question 2. Therefore, if the UHB were to conduct a search on the patients identified, it would far exceed the 'appropriate limit', costing the UHB the following:

221 @ 15 minutes per item = 55.25 hours
55.75 hours @ £25 per hour = £1,381.25

However, under Section 16 of the FoIA, we are required as a public authority, to provide advice and assistance so far as it is reasonable to individuals who have made a request under the FoIA, this can include assisting a requestor to further refine their request.

Unfortunately, the UHB is unable to provide advice on how you can refine your request further. This is due to the UHB still requiring a manual trawl of all identified prescriptions for cross referencing with patient records to identify any relevant information.

Additionally, 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 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 Freedom of Information Act. 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.

1. The UHB provides within the table below, the number of patients that were issued with the named biologic medications by the Gastroenterology Department, during July 2025.

Medication	Number
Etrasimod	0
Filgotinib	*
Golimumab	0
Mirikizumab	*
Ozanimod	*
Risankizumab	38
Tofacitinib	0
Upadacitinib	43
Ustekinumab (Stelara)	*
Ustekinumab Biosimilar	63
Vedolizumab	77

2. A Section 12 exemption applied.