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| Reference: | FOI.3229.20 |
| Subject: | Prescribing in ophthalmology |
| Date of Request: | 27 May 2020 |

Requested:

1. Within your trust how many intra-vitreous injections/implants of each of the following drugs have been used in the four-month period from January to April 2020:

Abicipar pegol
Aflibercept
Bevacizumab
Brolucizumab
Dexamethasone
Fluocinolone
Ranibizumab

2. If your trust is able to identify intra-vitreous injections/implants by eye condition, please provide the number of injections/implants used from January to April 2020, for each of the following conditions:

Wet Age Related Macular Degeneration (wAMD)

Abicipar pegol
Aflibercept
Bevacizumab
Brolucizumab
Dexamethasone
Fluocinolone
Ranibizumab

Diabetic Macular Oedema (DMO)

Abicipar pegol
Aflibercept
Bevacizumab
Brolucizumab
Dexamethasone
Fluocinolone
Ranibizumab

Retinal Vein Occlusion - Central (CRVO)

Abicipar pegol
Aflibercept
Bevacizumab
Brolucizumab
Dexamethasone
Fluocinolone
Ranibizumab

Retinal Vein Occlusion - Branch (BRVO)

Abicipar pegol
Aflibercept
Bevacizumab
Brolucizumab
Dexamethasone
Fluocinolone
Ranibizumab

Visual impairment due to choroidal neovascularization secondary to pathologic myopia (mCNV)

Abicipar pegol
Aflibercept
Bevacizumab
Brolucizumab
Dexamethasone
Fluocinolone
Ranibizumab

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides, within the table below, the number of intra-vitreous injections/implants used for each pharmaceutical and period requested.

| Pharmaceutical | Number |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Abicipar pegol | 0 |
| Aflibercept | 1,104 |
| Bevacizumab | 0 |
| Brolucizumab | 0 |
| Dexamethasone | 12 |
| Fluocinolone | 3 |
| Ranibizumab | 1,926 |

2. 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 Limit) 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.

The UHB’s pharmacy system does not store information by eye condition in a reportable manner, therefore, in order to provide you with the information being requested the UHB would be required to manually scrutinise all ophthalmology patient records to identify any information that fulfils your request.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI), 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.