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| Reference: | FOI.17379.25 |
| Subject: | Prostate cancer treatments |
| Date of Request: | 21 May 2025 |

Requested:

Thank you for your detailed response to our previous request (FOI.17034.25) and for explaining the limitations regarding the data availability. Considering this, we would like to submit a new, more focused request which we hope can be accommodated within the relevant time limits. I kindly request the following information:

1. Number of Patients at Each Stage of Prostate Cancer
Please provide the number of patients diagnosed and treated at your Trust, broken down by the following stages:
ICD-10 C61 / M0 and M1-M1c (localised and metastatic disease).
2. Number of Patients at Each Stage on Hormone Therapies and/or Docetaxel
For the patient populations categorized above, please provide the number of patients who are:
 - Initiated on hormone therapies.
 - Continued on hormone therapies.
 - Initiated on docetaxel.
 - Continued on docetaxel.
3. Volume of Drugs Prescribed (in packs)
For each of the following treatments used in managing prostate cancer, please provide the total quantity of drugs prescribed during the specified period: 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024
 - a. ADT Alone
 - b. Abiraterone (Zytiga) in combination with any ADT.
 - c. Abiraterone (Zytiga) – no ADT.
 - d. Enzalutamide (Xtandi) in combination with any ADT.
 - e. Enzalutamide (Xtandi) – no ADT.
 - f. Apalutamide (Erleada) in combination with any ADT.
 - g. Darolutamide (Nubeqa) in combination with any ADT.
 - h. Darolutamide (Nubeqa) in combination with any ADT and docetaxel.
 - i. Docetaxel in combination with any ADT.

*By ADT we mean any of Goserelin (Zoladex), Leuprorelin acetate (Prostap), Triptorelin (Decapeptyl), Buserelin acetate (Suprefact), Degarelix (Firmagon), Relugolix (Orgovyx).

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of the information requested, 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.

The UHB is unable to provide you with all of the information requested for questions 2 and 3 as the UHB's Pharmacy system does not record the indication for treatment and is unable to link the dispensing data to the ICD-10 codes requested. Therefore, in order to provide you with all of the information requested, the UHB would be required to conduct a manual trawl of all cancer patients' medical records to establish the type of cancer diagnosed, and the therapies used to treat the patients, to identify any information that would fulfil your request, as this information is not recorded centrally.

Additionally, the ChemoCare system, does not hold the data to the level of detail required, and a further manual trawl of patient records would be required to provide the data as requested.

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

However, under section 16 of the FoIA, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds overleaf.

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 has also replaced totals which could be used to calculate the redacted figure with a double asterisk (**). The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the 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 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 diagnosed with prostate cancer, by stage of cancer for the ICD-10 codes requested, during the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024.

| Stage | M0 | M1a | M1c | Not specified |
|---|----|-----|-----|---------------|
| C259 - Malignant neoplasm: Pancreas, unspecified | 0 | 0 | 0 | * |
| C61X - Malignant neoplasm of prostate | 11 | * | * | 649 |
| C679 - Malignant neoplasm: Bladder, unspecified | 0 | 0 | 0 | * |
| C799 - Secondary malignant neoplasm, unspecified site | 0 | 0 | 0 | * |
| Not specified | 0 | 0 | 0 | * |

2. A Section 12 exemption has been applied. However, under Section 16 the UHB provides the number of patients receiving each treatment, during the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024.

| Treatment | Number |
|--|------------|
| Chemotherapy | * |
| Hormone/endocrine therapy | 21 |
| Hormone/endocrine therapy, Hormone/endocrine therapy | 6 |
| Hormone/endocrine therapy, Hormone/endocrine therapy, Chemotherapy | * |
| Immunotherapy, Other | * |
| Not specified/other | 635 |
| Total | 668 |

3. A Section 12 exemption has been applied. However, under Section 16, the UHB provides within the table overleaf, the number of containers issued within secondary care for the listed treatments for any condition, during the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024. Rows marked with an asterisk (*) include data for both primary and secondary care.

Please note:- the treatments listed for b to h are only licenced for prostate cancer.

| | Treatment | Number |
|----|---|----------|
| a. | ADT Alone (multiple indications) | *4,311 |
| b. | Abiraterone (Zytiga) in combination with any ADT | 292.8 |
| c. | Abiraterone (Zytiga) – no ADT | 2133.75 |
| d. | Enzalutamide (Xtandi) in combination with any ADT | 104.25 |
| e. | Enzalutamide (Xtandi) – no ADT | *2174.40 |
| f. | Apalutamide (Erleada) in combination with any ADT | 38 |
| g. | Darolutamide (Nubeqa) in combination with any ADT | 24 |
| h. | Darolutamide (Nubeqa) in combination with any ADT and docetaxel | 34 |
| i. | Docetaxel in combination with any ADT (multiple indications) | 70 |