

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.2243.20
<b>Subject:</b>	Specific venous thromboembolism
<b>Date of Request:</b>	6 January 2020

**Requested:**

1. Does a specific venous thromboembolism protocol exist for your health board  
If so:
  - a. What date was this protocol put into place
  - b. When is it due for review
2. Is there a preferred Direct Oral Anticoagulant (DOAC) or are all utilised within the trust for VTE
3. How many patients have been treated for VTE with a DOAC in the last 12 months
4. What volume of each DOAC was used to Treat in this same time period

**Response:**

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms that Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) and **Pulmonary Embolism (PE)** pathway protocols are in place.
  - a. The UHB confirms the DVT pathway was created in May 2015 and the PE pathway was created in September 2015.
  - b. The UHB confirms the DVT and PE pathways were reviewed in 2018 and will have a further review in 2021.
2. The UHB's preferred Direct Oral Anticoagulants (DOAC) are Apixaban and Rivaroxaban for the treatment of **Venous Thromboembolism (VTE)**.
3. The UHB is unable to provide you with the number patients treated for VTE with a DOAC for the requested period, as the information is not held centrally. 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.

In order to provide you with the information requested, the UHB would need to manually scrutinise all patient records for the last twelve (12) months to identify any information that fulfils your request. It is estimated that the cost of conducting the search would be:

307,484 medicines dispensed @ 5 minutes per record = 25,623 hours

25,623 hours @ £25 per hour = £640,591

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 limit.

4. Within the table below, the UHB provides the total number of DOACs prescribed from the acute sector for all diagnosis for the 2019 calendar year:

<b>DOAC</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Total</b>
Apixaban 2.5 mg	Tablet	60,790
Apixaban 5 mg	Tablet	115,695
Dabigatran etexilate 110 mg	Capsule	19,202
Dabigatran etexilate 150 mg	Capsule	1,675
Dabigatran etexilate 75 mg	Capsule	6,800
Edoxaban 30 mg	Tablet	2,692
Edoxaban 60 mg	Tablet	1,771
Rivaroxaban 10 mg	Tablet	4,545
Rivaroxaban 15 mg	Tablet	57,447
Rivaroxaban 2.5 mg	Tablet	784
Rivaroxaban 20 mg	Tablet	36,083