

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.8698.22
<b>Subject:</b>	Treatment of dermatological conditions
<b>Date of Request:</b>	12 April 2022

**Requested:**

1. How many patients were treated in last 4 months by the Dermatology department with each of the following:
  - Abrocitinib
  - Acitretin
  - Alitretinoin
  - Azathioprine
  - Baricitinib
  - Ciclosporin
  - Dupilumab
  - Methotrexate
  - Mycophenolate mofetil
  - Pimecrolimus
  - Tacrolimus ointment
  - Tralokinumab
  - Upadacitinib
2. Of the patients treated in the last 4 months with any of the products listed in Q1, how many patients were paediatric (age 17 or under)?
3. How many patients were treated in the last 4 months with phototherapy (UVB or PUVA) for atopic Dermatitis ONLY?

**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 and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The "appropriate limit" 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 all of the information being requested, the UHB would need to undertake a manual search of all dermatology patient records to identify any information that fulfils your request for the requested period, as this information is not recorded centrally.

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, 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 FoIA. Therefore, the UHB provides the information it holds for questions 1 and 3 below.

1. The UHB provides, within the table overleaf, the number of patients treated in the Dermatology Department, with the listed medications, during the period 1 December 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Medication	Number
Abrocitinib	0
Acitretin	59
Alitretinoin	*
Azathioprine	16
Baricitinib	0
Ciclosporin	14
Dupilumab	42
Methotrexate	32
Mycophenolate mofetil	*
Pimecrolimus	0
Tacrolimus ointment	*
Tralokinumab	0
Upadacitinib	0

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 number of cases (5 and under), 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 FoIA. This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018/General Data Protection Regulations 2016 (GDPR), as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles 6 and 9 of the GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore, there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the Data Protection Act 2018/General Data Protection Regulations 2016 define personal data as data which 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.

3. The UHB confirms that no patients were treated with phototherapy, during the period 1 December 2021 to 31 March 2022.