

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.7910.22
<b>Subject:</b>	Treatments for depression
<b>Date of Request:</b>	7 January 2022

**Requested:**

1. How many patients have received the following treatments (for any condition) in the past 12 months:

Electro-convulsive therapy (ECT)	
Esketamine nasal spray	
Ketamine infusion	
r-TMS therapy	

2. For patients receiving Electro-Convulsive Therapy in the past 12 months, how many patients were under treatment for:

Major depressive disorder	
Other mental health conditions	

3. How many patients with Major Depressive Disorder have been treated by your Organisation in the past 12 months?

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the information requested for question 3, 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.

In order to provide you with the requested data, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of Psychological Therapies patient records, to identify those that have been diagnosed and treated for Major Depressive Disorder during the previous twelve (12) months, 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.

Additionally, the UHB is unable to provide a breakdown of treatments for patients that received ECT as requested in question 2, as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if these details were disclosed. The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA).

Also, where the figures in the table overleaf 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.

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 and have provided the information requested for question 1 overleaf.

1. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of patients that received the listed treatments during the period 1 January to 31 December 2021.

Treatment	Number
Electro-convulsive therapy (ECT)	21
Esketamine nasal spray	*
Ketamine infusion	*
r-TMS therapy	*

Please note:- The UHB commenced a rTMS service pilot in January 2022.