

Reference:	FOI.10469.22
Subject:	Treatments for Dermatological conditions
Date of Request:	8 December 2022

Requested:

1. How many patients were treated in last 4 months by the Dermatology department (for any disease) with each of the following:
 - Abrocitinib
 - Acitretin
 - Alitretinoin
 - Azathioprine
 - Baricitinib
 - Ciclosporin
 - Dupilumab
 - Methotrexate
 - Mycophenolate mofetil
 - Pimecrolimus
 - Tacrolimus ointment
 - Tralokinumab
 - Upadacitinib
 - Phototherapy (UVB or PUVA)
2. Of the patients treated in the last 4 months with any of the products listed in Q1, please provide the number of patients by the following age-groups:
 - Age 6-11
 - Age 12-17
 - Age 18 and above
3. If possible, could you please provide the number of patients treated in the last 4 months for atopic dermatitis ONLY with:
 - Azathioprine
 - Ciclosporin
 - Methotrexate
 - Mycophenolate mofetil
 - Phototherapy (UVB or PUVA)

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the number of patients who received a named treatment for atopic dermatitis as requested in question 3, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) 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.

In order to provide you with the number of patients that received the named treatments for the treatment of only atopic dermatitis within the requested timeframe, the UHB would need to identify

the patients from the pharmaceutical system and then subsequently search the patient records, to identify the condition being treated.

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*.

However, under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance. The UHB has therefore provided the information requested in respect of questions 1 and 2.

1. The UHB provides, within the table overleaf, the number of patients treated by the Dermatology Department with the listed medications, for any condition, during the period 1 August and 30 November 2022.

Medication	Number
Abrocitinib	0
Acitretin	60
Alitretinoin	*
Azathioprine	20
Baricitinib	0
Ciclosporin	*
Dupilumab	48
Methotrexate	30
Mycophenolate mofetil	*
Pimecrolimus	0
Tacrolimus ointment	0
Tralokinumab	*
Upadacitinib	0
Phototherapy (UVB or PUVA)	0

Where the figures in the table above and in the table provided in answer to question 2 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 Freedom of information Act 2000.

This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR), as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles 6 and 9 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 Data Protection Act 2018/UK GDPR 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.

2. Within the table below, the UHB has provided a breakdown of the number of patients treated with the listed treatments for any Dermatological condition between 1 August and 30 November 2022 broken down into age groups.

Age group	Number
6-11 years	*
12-17 years	7
18+ years	164