

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.4714.20
<b>Subject:</b>	Treatments of dermatological conditions
<b>Date of Request:</b>	7 December 2020

**Requested:**

- How many patients were treated in last 4 months by the Dermatology department with each of the following:
  - Acitretin
  - Alitretinoin
  - Azathioprine
  - Baricitinib
  - Ciclosporin
  - Dupilumab
  - Methotrexate
  - Mycophenolate mofetil
  - Pimecrolimus
  - Tacrolimus
  - Upadacitinib
  - Ultraviolet light therapy
- How many patients have been treated in the last 4 months for Atopic Dermatitis, and how many of these patients were under the age of 17?

**Response:**

- Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides, within the table below, the number of patients treated in the Dermatology department, with the listed medications, for the period requested.

<b>Medication</b>	<b>Number of patients</b>
Acitretin	45
Alitretinoin	7
Azathioprine	13
Baricitinib	0
Ciclosporin	13
Dupilumab	26
Methotrexate	28
Mycophenolate mofetil	7
Pimecrolimus	0
Tacrolimus	*
Upadacitinib	0
Ultraviolet light therapy	0

Where the figure in the table has 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 (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/ 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 defines 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. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the information requested, 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 all of the information being requested, the UHB would need to undertake a manual search of all dermatology patient records for the period requested to identify any information that fulfils your request, as this information is not recorded centrally.

Therefore, the UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI), 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.