

Reference:	FOI.8084.22
Subject:	Use of intra-vitreous injections or implants
Date of Request:	27 January 2022

Requested:

1. How many of the following intra-vitreous injections/implants has your trust administered in the four-month period from September to December 2021:

- Aflibercept
- Bevacizumab
- Brolucizumab
- Dexamethasone
- Fluocinolone acetonide
- Ranibizumab

2. Please provide the number of injections/implants of the following treatments that have been used in the four-month period from September to December 2021 for Diabetic Macular Oedema (DMO) ONLY:

- Aflibercept - phakic* eyes
- Aflibercept - pseudophakic** eyes
- Bevacizumab - phakic eyes
- Bevacizumab - pseudophakic eyes
- Dexamethasone - phakic eyes
- Dexamethasone - pseudophakic eyes
- Fluocinolone acetonide - phakic eyes
- Fluocinolone acetonide - pseudophakic eyes
- Ranibizumab - pseudophakic eyes
- Ranibizumab - phakic eyes

*Phakic refers to eyes with the natural lens

**Pseudophakic eyes have an intraocular lens implanted after removal of the natural lens (cataract surgery)

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 Ophthalmic patient records to identify those suffering from DMO and the treatment administered during the requested period of September to December 2021, 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 question 1 below.

1. The UHB provides, within the table overleaf, the number of each of the intra-vitreal injections/implants dispensed during the period September to December 2021.

Medication	Number
Aflibercept	2,473
Bevacizumab	0
Brolucizumab	2
Dexamethasone	28
Fluocinolone	0
Ranibizumab	2,633