

## **Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB\_394\_20**

### **You asked:**

Please state, in the form of a yearly breakdown for the years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 (up to the most recent month of available information for Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board:

#### **1. The number of people prescribed medication for acne purposes - please break down and identify gender, age, and ethnicity of patients**

Whilst our pharmacy system holds information on medication prescribed by year, it does not capture the indication for each prescription and as some of the medication prescribed for acne purposes can be prescribed for other reasons, we are unable to provide. The system also does not capture the gender, age, and ethnicity of patients.

I can confirm that the Health Board does not centrally record this information. The information you require would be recorded within an individual patient's health record as part of their ongoing care. To provide you with this information, would require a manual trawl and significantly exceed the 18 hours time and £450 cost limit set out within Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

#### **2. Identify the name of what drug was prescribed and in what quantity**

Please see response to question 1.

However, to assist you with your request we can confirm that in primary care the standard treatments of care are the use of topical agents and anti-inflammatory antibiotics. In addition the oral contraceptive pill may be used with selected female patients.

In secondary care, where primary treatments have failed, isotretinoin or spironolactone are generally prescribed in standard doses.

#### **3. Where possible, please identify the length of prescription per patient, if acne is identified as moderate or severe**

Please see response to question 1.

#### **4. Please identify the cost of prescribed product.**

The cost depends on the drug. The majority of common drugs have all Wales prices. [NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership](#) (NWSSP) provides procurement services for these for all Wales NHS Health Boards. Therefore you may wish to redirect this element of your request to them. They can be contacted at the following address: [shared.services@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:shared.services@wales.nhs.uk). Those without such a contract are purchased at standard rate.

**5. Please include any contraceptive medication prescribed to women with acne or skin issues stated as the reason: eg. combined oral contraceptive pills such as Cilest, Rigevidon, Microgynon, Marvelon, Yasmin, Logynon, Microgynon ED.**

Please see response to question 1.

Contraception medication is usually prescribed to women by GP's according to the usual standard of care.