

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_199_21

You asked:

I would greatly appreciate if you could answer the below questions:

1. For the 4-month period from January to April 2021, how many patients has your Health Board treated with the following anti-VEGF treatments:

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

2. For the patients above, how many were new to anti-VEGF therapy? Please provide the patient numbers by the treatments listed below, excluding patients who previously had any anti-VEGF therapy.

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

3. Within your Health Board, how many **intra-vitreous injections/implants** of each the following treatments have been used (for any eye condition) in the four-month period from January to April 2021:

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

4. If your Health Board is able to identify **intra-vitreous injections/implants** by eye condition, please provide the number of injections/implants used in the four-month period from January to April 2021 for each of the following conditions:

Diabetic Macular Oedema (DMO)

- Aflibercept
- Bevacizumab
- Dexamethasone
- Ranibizumab

Retinal Vein Occlusion - Central (CRVO) or Branch (BRVO)

- Aflibercept
- Bevacizumab
- Dexamethasone
- Ranibizumab

Our response:

In response to your recent enquiry above please find below a series of tables populated with the data requested answering questions 1, 3 and 4.

With regards to question 2 the pharmacy electronic system is not able to identify new patients. 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.

Please note the latest 4 month period available relates to 1st December 2020 to 31st March. Unfortunately, due to the recent implementation of a new pharmacy electronic dispensing system we are unable to provide any further detail at present.

Q1	
Medicine	Number of Patients
Aflibercept	788
Bevacizumab	9
Brolucizumab	0
Dexamethasone	15
Fluocinolone acetonide	0
Ranibizumab	43

Q3	
Medicine	Number of Injections
Aflibercept	2103
Bevacizumab	12
Brolucizumab	0
Dexamethasone	18
Fluocinolone	0
Ranibizumab	98

Q4 – Diabetic Macular Oedema (DMO)	
Medicine	Number of Injections
Aflibercept	365
Bevacizumab	*
Dexamethasone	**
Ranibizumab	16

Q4 – Retinal Vein Occlusion – Central (CRVO) or Branch (BRVO)	
Medicine	Number of Injections
Aflibercept	231
Bevacizumab	*
Dexamethasone	5
Ranibizumab	11

*We are unable to provide information on the eye condition for bevacizumab as we do not hold this level of data on our Medicines Management system. We 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.

Please not, where the figures are less than 5, this has been denoted by **. The exact figures have been withheld due to the low numbers involved.

Where numbers are low we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. Also, responses under the Freedom of Information Act are made available to the public at large. The data is classed as personal data as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute as unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.