

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_369_21

You asked:

I am analysing the usage of new biologic medications in gastroenterology. I would greatly appreciate if you could answer the following two questions.

Q1. How many patients were treated in July 2021 (or latest available month) by the gastroenterology department with the following drugs:

- Adalimumab (any brand or biosimilar)
- Infliximab (any brand or biosimilar)
- Ustekinumab (Stelara)
- Vedolizumab (Entyvio)
- Tofacitinib (Xeljanz)
- Filgotinib (Jyseleca)

Q2. How many patients were treated in July 2021 (or latest available month) for Crohn's Disease ONLY with the following drugs:

- Adalimumab (any brand or biosimilar)
- Infliximab (any brand or biosimilar)
- Ustekinumab (Stelara)
- Vedolizumab (Entyvio)

Our response:

Please see the table below which has been populated with the number of patients treated, recorded by Medicines Management during the month of July 21. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide a split of the data by condition as this information is not at present recorded by Medicines Management.

The detailed 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.

The information provided relates mainly to the Merthyr & Cynon and Rhondda Taff Ely Localities of the Health Board. However, where data has been available for the Bridgend Locality this has been included. Bridgend Locality biologics for the majority of Gastroenterology patients are supplied by services within Swansea Bay University Health Board. Therefore, you may wish to also contact them via the following email address: FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

Medicine	Number of Patients
Adalimumab (any brand or biosimilar)	56
Ustekinumab (Stelara)	15
Vedolizumab (Entyvio)	48
Tofacitinib (Xeljanz)	**
Filgotinib (Jyseleca)	0
Infliximab (any brand or biosimilar)	98

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.