

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_41_24

You asked:

Q1. In the past 3 months, how many patients with a primary diagnosis of giant cell arteritis (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) were:

- **Admitted as an inpatient** - We can confirm that in the past 3 months (Oct – Dec), less than 5 patients have been admitted as an inpatient with a primary diagnosis of GCA (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6)

Please note the following:

- Patient may belong to another University Health Board area.
- Where data is reliant on clinical coding, this traditionally has a completion timeline of three months in arrears – therefore this data will be incomplete.
- Where the figures are less than 5, 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.

- **Treated in A&E** - We would not be able to identify if a patient was 'treated for' Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA) in A&E. However, to assist you with your request we have looked for GCA as the presenting complaint in case a patient came into A&E knowing their condition causing issues, but none were found.

Q2. How many patients were treated by the rheumatology department in the past 3 months with the following:

- **Tocilizumab – for any disease** - Number of Patients 1st October 2023 to 31st December 2023 = 89.
- **Tocilizumab for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) only**
- **Tocilizumab for giant cell arteritis (GCA) only**

Individual conditions are not recorded on pharmacy systems. Therefore, we are unable to provide.

*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.

Q3. How many patients were treated by the ophthalmology department (for any disease) in the past 3 months with Tocilizumab?

No patients have treated by the ophthalmology department in the past 3 months.

Q4. How many patients were treated in A&E in the past 3 months (for any disease) with Tocilizumab?

*Please see response to question 2.