

April 2011

Immunology Drugs

*Please would you tell us the number of patients currently being treated in your trust with biologics for the following conditions, split by named biologic.*

	Abatecept	Adalimumab	Certolizumab Pegol	Etanercept	Golimumab	Infliximab	Rituximab	Tocilizumab	Ustekinumab
Ankylosing Spondylitis									
Crohn's Disease									
Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis									
Psoriasis									
Psoriatic Arthritis									
Rheumatoid Arthritis									
Ulcerative Colitis									

We have now processed your request and I can confirm that the Trust does hold the information regarding Immunology Drugs. However, we are unable to comply with your request as the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate cost limit of £450 which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.

In this instance the cost of retrieval exceeds the cost limit as the information is not held in one filing system and they are not structured or indexed in such a way that the information can be retrieved without a manual search. The information you requested is held in individual prescription charts which are maintained in separate case notes in paper format across various centres within the Trust. The Trust would only be able to provide you with the information you requested by examining every individual case note and then extracting the required information. Although the primary record is paper based, some information is instead held electronically and would therefore need to be cross referenced to the paper record.

Although you stated that you required information at a minimum covering the last year and repeated at regular intervals, as the Trust does not file case notes in date order, it would be necessary to examine all case notes rather than just those that relate to a specific time period.

I therefore regret that retrieval of the information you have requested would far exceed the £450 cost limit and that the Trust is therefore unable to comply with this part of your request.