

Date: 17 December 2018

**Re: Freedom of Information Request**  
**Ref: 250-2018**

Thank you for your email dated 21st November 2018 requesting information regarding Rheumatoid Arthritis.

The information that you require is as follows:

- 1. Within your trust how many patients do you have diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis?**

As our Trust is a tertiary specialist cancer treatment centre and does not directly treat Rheumatoid Arthritis, this would be recorded as a co-morbidity for our inpatients only. Therefore please see these figures below:

33 of our patients who were discharged between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 had been clinically coded as having a co-morbidity of Rheumatoid Arthritis.

- 2. How many Rheumatoid Arthritis patients have had an IFR [Individual Funding Request] put in for them to have an advanced treatment (i.e. biologic or JAK inhibitor) in the past 12 months?**

I can confirm that our Trust does not hold any information in this regard. Our Trust is a tertiary specialist cancer treatment centre and therefore does not treat Rheumatoid Arthritis, if it was thought that patients had RA we would refer out to other Trusts. Therefore, the information you have requested is not applicable to our Trust in this instance.

- 3. How many patients do you have diagnosed with moderate Rheumatoid Arthritis? [moderate is defined within the guidelines as patients with a DAS score of between 3.2 and 5.1]**

**When Rheumatoid Arthritis is clinically coded as co-morbidity within our Trust, a DAS score is not assigned. Therefore, we are unable to ascertain the number of patients with moderate Rheumatoid Arthritis from our records.**

- 4. How many moderate Rheumatoid Arthritis patients have had an IFR [Individual Funding Request] put in for them to have an advanced treatment (i.e. biologic or JAK inhibitor) in the past 12 months?**

**Please see Q2**

- 5. How many moderate Rheumatoid Arthritis patients have been granted an IFR request for an advanced treatment (i.e. biologic or JAK inhibitor) in the past 12 months?**

**Please see Q2**

- 6. If possible, please state the number of patients and the name of an advanced treatment (i.e. biologic or JAK inhibitor) provided**

**Please see Q2**

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address provided below.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for this to be investigated internally.

If you are dissatisfied with the information you have received, you have the right to ask for an internal review.

Both processes will be handled in accordance with our Trust's Freedom of Information Policy and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Internal investigation and internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Freedom of Information Review, The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust, Clatterbridge Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 4JY

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal investigation/review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

**In order for us to ensure customer satisfaction and to monitor compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would be grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete a short feedback form via the link below:**

**<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H39RFMM>**