

14 April 2021

Our Ref: RFI 37489

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information on Biologic and Biosimilar Products Within Rheumatology**

I am writing to confirm that the has now completed its search for information relating to the above which you requested on 21 January 2021. I sincerely apologise for the delay in responding. Thank you for your patience.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Hospital Services Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

If you are unhappy as to how this request has been handled, you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. You should write to the Information Governance Department, Lough House, Ards Community Hospital (informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net) within two months of the date of this response and your complaint will be considered and a response provided, within 20 working days of receipt.

If, after receiving a response, you remain unhappy, you can refer your complaint to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office –Northern Ireland, 3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place, Belfast, BT7 2JB. It is important to note that if you refer any matter to the Information Commissioner, you will need to show evidence of having gone through the Trust's internal review procedure to try to resolve the matter with the Trust in the first instance.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

**Rebecca Manning/Joyce Batch/Susan Clarke
Information Governance Assistant**

Q1. Could you please provide the numbers of patients treated by the rheumatology department (for any condition) in the last 3 months with the following drugs:

A1. The figures provided below in Table 1 refer to numbers of Rheumatology patients who received these medicines during the full three month period preceding the request (Oct - Dec 2020).

Table 1:

Medicine	No. of Rheumatology Patients
Abatacept [Orencia]	16
Adalimumab [Humira]	118
Adalimumab Biosimilars	108
Apremilast [Otezla]	<5
Baricitinib [Olmiant]	38
Certolizumab [Cimzia]	5
Etanercept [Enbrel]	47
Etanercept Biosimilars	81
Filgotinib [Jyseleca]	0
Golimumab [Simponi]	61
Infliximab [Remicade]	5
Infliximab Biosimilars	<5
Ixekizumab [Taltz]	<5
Rituximab [MabThera]	5
Rituximab Biosimilars	12
Sarilumab [Kevzara]	<5
Secukinumab [Cosentyx]	32
Tocilizumab [Ro Actemra]	31
Tofacitinib [Xeljanz]	10
Upadacitinib [Rinvoq]	0
Ustekinumab [Stelara]	<5

* You will note that some of the numbers have been masked and this is due to small numbers within a small geographical area.

Q2. Could you please provide the numbers of patients treated for Ankylosing Spondylitis in the last 3 months with the following drugs. (Please only include patients where there is radiographic damage on X-ray of sacroiliac joints)

- **Adalimumab [Humira]**
- **Adalimumab Biosimilars**
- **Certolizumab [Cimzia]**
- **Etanercept [Enbrel]**
- **Etanercept Biosimilars**
- **Golimumab [Simponi]**
- **Infliximab [Remicade]**
- **Infliximab Biosimilars**
- **Ixekizumab [Taltz]**
- **Secukinumab [Cosentyx]**

A2. The South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust does not currently have an electronic prescribing system. The pharmacy department therefore does not have any systems in place that would capture this level of detail in terms of diagnosis.

Q3. Please could you provide the total number of patients treated with any biologic drug in the past 3 months who are diagnosed with the following:

- **Ankylosing spondylitis (i.e. with radiographic damage on X-ray of sacroiliac joints)**
- **Non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (i.e. without radiographic damage on X-ray of sacroiliac joints)**

A3. The South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust does not currently have an electronic prescribing system. The pharmacy department therefore does not have any systems in place that would capture this level of detail in terms of diagnosis.