

28 April 2022

**Our Ref:** RFI 43151

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Requesting information in relation to treatments for migraine.**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for the information relating to the above, which you requested on 16 February 2022. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request. Thank you for your patience and forbearance.

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](mailto: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

---

**Louise McNamara**  
**Information Governance Assistant**

**Q1. How many patients have been treated with the following drugs in the past 4 months:**

**Q1.1 Erenumab (Aimovig) - any disease**

**Q1.2 Fremanezumab (Ajoovy) - any disease**

**Q1.3 Galcanezumab (Emgality) - any disease**

A1. Please see Table 1.

Table 1

Drug	Number of Patients
Erenumab (Aimovig) - any disease	0
Fremanezumab (Ajoovy) - any disease	0
Galcanezumab (Emgality) - any disease	<5*

\*You will note that some of the numbers within Table 1 & 2 have been masked. The numbers have been masked because there are a small number of individuals within a small geographical area and therefore the individual could be identified. Potential Identification of the individual may therefore lead to the disclosure of their personal information.

This information relates to personal information, it is exempt from release under Section 40 (2) and 40 (3) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act, 2000.

Section 40 (personal information) states:-

*(2)Any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if—*

*(a) it constitutes personal data which not fall within subsection (1), and*

*(b) the first, second or third condition below is satisfied.*

*(3)The first condition is that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act—*

*(a) would contravene any of the data protection principles.*

**Q1.4 Botulinum Toxin (i.e., Botox, Dysport, Xeomin) - migraine ONLY**

A1.4 We don't have an electronic prescribing and administration system, so are unable to breakdown by indication. To obtain this information would require a manual review of records.

This would exceed the 'Appropriate Limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust therefore exempts the release of this information under Section 12(1).

12.-(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice in respect of Q1.4.

**Q2. I would like to understand the source of funding of Botox and anti-CGRP monoclonal antibody treatments (Ajoovy, Aimovig, Emgality) for migraine. Could you please answer the following questions:**

**Q2.1 Does the trust commission/fund Botulinum Toxin treatment for migraine (Y/N)?**

A2.1 The Trust is not commissioned to deliver a Botulinum Toxin for Migraine.

**Q2.2 Does the trust commission/fund anti-CGRP treatments for migraine (Y/N)?**

A2.2 The Trust follow the NI Formulary managed entry decisions in line with the corresponding National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Technology Appraisal

(NICE TA). Strategic Planning and Performance Group (formerly HSCB) have commissioned these drugs as per NICE TA.

**Q2.3 In case the trust actively provides Botulinum Toxin treatment for migraine but does not commission/fund it, then please provide the name(s) of the other NHS organisations that commission/fund these treatments at your trust.**

A2.3 Strategic Planning and Performance Group (formerly HSCB).

**Q2.4 In case the trust actively provides anti-CGRP treatments for migraine but does not commission/fund them, then please provide the name(s) of the other NHS organisations that commission/fund these treatments at your trust.**

A2.4 N/A