

10 October 2023

**Our Ref:** RFI 53362

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Information in Relation to Rheumatology Treatments.**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to the above which you requested on 7 September 2023. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request, thank you for your understanding and forbearance of this matter.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Surgery, Elective Care, Maternity & Paediatrics 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

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**Caroline Degans**

**Q1. It would be really helpful if you could provide the numbers of patients treated by the rheumatology department (for any condition) in the last 3 months with the following drugs:**

A1. Please see Table 1, for the number of patients treated by the Rheumatology Department in all hospital sites within the Trust for the period 01/06/2023 to 31/08/2023.

Treatment	Number of Patients Treated
Abatacept [Orencia]	35
Adalimumab [Humira]	60
Adalimumab Biosimilars	358
Apremilast [Otezla]	2
Baricitinib [Olumiant]	30
Bimekizumab [Bimzelx]	Nil
Certolizumab [Cimzia]	8
Etanercept [Enbrel]	36
Etanercept Biosimilars	149
Filgotinib [Jyseleca]	Nil
Golimumab [Simponi]	76
Guselkumab [Tremfya]	2
Infliximab [Remicade]	4
Infliximab Biosimilars	8
Ixekizumab [Taltz]	17
Risankizumab [Skyrizi]	1
Rituximab [MabThera]	1
Rituximab Biosimilars	25
Sarilumab [Kevzara]	3
Secukinumab [Cosentyx]	64
Tocilizumab [Ro Actemra]	74
Tofacitinib [Xeljanz]	2
Upadacitinib [Rinvoq]	7
Ustekinumab [Stelara]	3