

28 June 2024

Our Ref: RFI 58508

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

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 6 May 2024. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request. Thank you for your understanding and forbearance.

A response to the question raised has been provided by the Surgery, Elective Care, AHP & 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) 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

Caroline Degans
Information Governance Officer

Q1. We are analysing the usage of biologic and biosimilar products within Rheumatology and it would be really helpful if you could please 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 below for the number of patients treated by the Rheumatology Department in all hospitals within the Trust, with the listed drugs from 01/08/2023 to 31/10/2023*.

Table 1

Drug Type	Number of Patients Treated
Abatacept [Orencia]	39
Adalimumab [Humira]	64
Adalimumab Biosimilars	377
Apremilast [Otezla]	2
Baricitinib [Olumiant]	26
Bimekizumab [Bimzelx]	Nil
Certolizumab [Cimzia]	20
Etanercept [Enbrel]	38
Etanercept Biosimilars	161
Filgotinib [Jyseleca]	Nil
Golimumab [Simponi]	83
Guselkumab [Tremfya]	2
Infliximab [Remicade]	4
Infliximab Biosimilars	9
Ixekizumab [Taltz]	20
Risankizumab [Skyrizi]	Nil
Rituximab [MabThera]	1
Rituximab Biosimilars	19
Sarilumab [Kevzara]	3
Secukinumab [Cosentyx]	69
Tocilizumab [Ro Actemra] 80	80
Tocilizumab Biosimilars	Nil
Tofacitinib [Xeljanz]	2
Upadacitinib [Rinvoq]	8
Ustekinumab [Stelara]	4

*Please note, in regards to the figures provided in Table 1 the Trust can only provide figures up to 31 October 2023 due to migrating to the new Encompass system.