

Date: 06/03/2024
Your Ref:
Our Ref: 8404

Enquiries to : Richard Mutch
Extension: 35687
Direct Line: 0131 465 5687
loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot
richard.mutch@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – PRESCRIBING

I write in response to your request for information in relation to prescribing within NHS Lothian.

Question:

- For the 4 months from September to December 2023, how many patients received the following intra-vitreous treatments for any eye condition:

- Aflibercept
- Bevacizumab
- Brolucizumab
- Dexamethasone
- Faricimab
- Ranibizumab - Lucentis
- Ranibizumab - Ongavia

Answer:

September 2023 - December 2023	
Medicine	Containers Issued (All single units)
Aflibercept	4,176
Bevacizumab	0
Brolucizumab	0
Dexamethasone	37
Faricimab	476
Fluocinolone Acetonide	5<
Ranibizumab (Lucentis)	8
Ranibizumab (Ongavia)	92
Ranibizumab (Ximluci)	7

To protect the identity of the individuals involved any figure of 5 or less has not been shown in the table above. Since we do not have their consent to release this data from their records,

the information is exempt under section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act i.e. to provide it would breach the Data Protection Act (2018).

Question:

2. For the patients above, how many were new to intra-vitreous treatment? Please provide the patient numbers by the treatments listed below, excluding patients who previously had received any of these treatments.

- Aflibercept
- Bevacizumab
- Brolucizumab
- Dexamethasone
- Faricimab
- Ranibizumab - Lucentis
- Ranibizumab - Ongavia

Answer:

This information is not held in a centrally extractable format. Under the Freedom of Information Act NHS Lothian is not required to create new records to enable it to respond to your enquiry. This information is not collated or held in aggregate form and it would be necessary to review all case files relating to patients over the period you have requested to assemble the information you seek. Even if NHS Lothian did this – and there would be significant cost implications in doing so – it would be unable to respond in full to your request. The information requested is therefore exempt under section 12.1 – Cost.

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of receipt of our review response. You can do this by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office online appeals service at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal. If you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner's response you then have the option to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the FOI Reviewer at the email address at the head of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian's Freedom of Information website at: <https://org.nhsllothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing, Midwifery and AHPs
Cc: Chief Executive