

Date 05/06/2024
Your Ref
Our Ref 8773

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – GIANT CELL ARTERITIS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to giant cell arteritis prescribing.

Question:

1. Does your trust or health board treat giant cell arteritis (GCA)? If not, please provide the name of the hospital or trust that you refer GCA patients to.

Answer:

Yes.

Question:

2. In the past 3 months, how many patients with a primary diagnosis of GCA (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) were:

Answer:

Admitted as an inpatient 0
Treated in A&E 0

Question:

3. How many patients were treated by the rheumatology department in the past 3 months with the following:

Answer:

Tocilizumab – for any disease 183
Tocilizumab for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) only 76
Tocilizumab for giant cell arteritis (GCA) only 76

Question:

4. How many patients were treated by the ophthalmology department (for any disease) in the past 3 months with Tocilizumab?

Headquarters
Waverley Gate
2-4 Waterloo Place
Edinburgh EH1 3EG

Chair Professor John Connaghan CBE
Interim Chief Executive Jim Crombie

*Lothian NHS Board is the common
name of Lothian Health Board*

Answer:

5 GCA, <5 Uveitis

Question:

5. How many patients were treated in A&E in the past 3 months for giant cell arteritis (GCA) with Tocilizumab?

Answer:

Nil.

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.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

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