

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – ASTHMA PRESCRIBING

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Asthma prescribing.

Question:

1. How many new patients were treated for Asthma by the Trust's Respiratory Department in the latest 4 month period (August - November 2025) with the treatments I have provided below?

Please can you define a "new patient" as a patient who has received any of the treatments listed below for the first time. If a patient received any of the below treatments either in or before March 2025, they can be classed as a new patient for the purposes of this question.

- Cinqaero (Reslizumab)
- Dupixent (Dupilumab)
- Fasenra (Benralizumab)
- Nucala (Mepolizumab)
- Tezpire (Tezepelumab)
- Xolair (Omalizumab)

Answer:

From locally collected data - 21 adult patients have been newly started on the treatments listed above between the 4 month period of August 2025 - November 2025 for asthma within the severe asthma service.

Question:

2. How many new patients were treated for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) by the Trust's Respiratory Department in the latest 4-month period (August – November 2025) with the treatments I have provided below?

Please can you define a "new patient" as a patient who has received any of the treatments listed below for the first time. If a patient received any of the below treatments either in or before March 2025, they can be classed as a new patient for the purposes of this question.

- Dupixent (Dupilumab)
- Nucala (Mepolizumab)

Answer:

No patients have been started in NHS Lothian for treatment with either Dupilumab or Mepolizumab for COPD.

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
Cc: Chief Executive