

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – DERMATOLOGY PRESCRIBING

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

Question:

1. How many patients were treated in the last 4 months (December to March 2026) by the dermatology department with each of the following products:

- Abrocitinib
- Acitretin
- Alitretinoin
- Azathioprine
- Baricitinib
- Ciclosporin
- Dupilumab
- Lebrikizumab
- Methotrexate
- Mycophenolate mofetil
- Pimecrolimus
- Phototherapy (UVB or PUVA) - for Atopic Dermatitis only
- Tacrolimus ointment
- Tralokinumab
- Upadacitinib
- Nemolizumab

Answer:

December 2025 - March 2026	
Medication	Patient Count
Abrocitinib	28
Acitretin	72
Alitretinoin	24
Azathioprine	12
Baricitinib	0

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Chair Professor John Connaghan CBE
Chief Executive Professor Caroline Hiscox
Lothian NHS Board is the common name of Lothian Health Board

Ciclosporin	74
Dupilumab	265
Lebrikizumab	48
Methotrexate	152
Mycophenolate Mofetil	6
Pimecrolimuz	0
Phototherapy UVB or PUVA (Atopic Dermatitis Only)	Information Unavailable
Tacrolimus Ointment	Information Unavailable
Tralokinumab	14
Upadacitinib	42
Nemolizumab	0

Question:

2. In the last 4 months, how many new patients have been initiated* on the following treatments by the dermatology department

- Abrocitinib
- Baricitinib
- Dupilumab
- Lebrikizumab
- Tralokinumab
- Upadacitinib
- Nemolizumab

*Patients are considered 'new patients initiated' on a treatment if they have not been previously treated with any of the other named treatments above since 1st April 2025 prior to initiation. e.g. Patient initiated on Lebrikizumab in Dec 2025 - March 2026 (has not previously been treated with Abro, Bari, Dupi, Tralo, Upada, Nemo since March 2025)

Answer:

For patients treated with specified medicines within NHS Lothian services from December 2025 - March 2026, below patient counts for those not treated in the previous eight-month period (April 2025 - November 2025) with specified medications

Medication	Patient Count
Abrocitinib	5<
Baricitinib	0
Dupilumab	20
Lebrikizumab	31
Tralokinumab	0
Upadacitinib	8
Nemolizumab	0

Question:

3. Of the patients treated in the last 4 months with any of the products listed in question 1, please provide the number of patients by the following age group:

- 6 months to 5
- Age 6-11
- Age 12-17
- Age 18 and above

Answer:

December 2025 - March 2026				
Medication	Patient Count			
	0-5	6-11	12-17	18 and above
Abrocitinib	0	0	5<	27
Acitretin	0	5<	0	69
Alitretinoin	0	0	0	24
Azathioprine	0	0	0	12
Baricitinib	0	0	0	0
Ciclosporin	0	5<	5<	69
Dupilumab	5<	8	8	247
Lebrikizumab	0	0	5<	44
Methotrexate	0	5<	9	139
Mycophenolate Mofetil	0	0	0	6
Pimecrolimus	0	0	0	0
Phototherapy UVB or PUVA (Atopic Dermatitis Only)	Information Unavailable	Information Unavailable	Information Unavailable	Information Unavailable
Tacrolimus Ointment	Information Unavailable	Information Unavailable	Information Unavailable	Information Unavailable
Tralokinumab	0	0	0	14
Upadacitinib	0	0	5<	41
Nemolizumab	0	0	0	0

Question:

4. How many patients have received treatment by the dermatology department for Prurigo Nodularis in the last 4 months with each of the following products:

- Dupilumab
- Nemolizumab

Answer:

I am advised that this 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.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive