Lothian NHS Board

NHS Lothian Headquarters
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Date 16 November 2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 12054

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
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Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – BIOLOGICS PRESCRIBING

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

Question:
1. How many patients were treated **in total, regardless of diagnosis**, with the following medicines in the 3 months between the start of July 2026 and the end of September 2026?

Answer:

July 2026 - September 2026 Medication	Patient Count
Benralizumab (Fasenra)	Information Unavailable
Depemokimab (Exdensur)	0
Dupilumab (Dupixent)	331
Lebrikizumab (Ebglyss)	30
Mepolizumab (Nucala)	79
Omalizumab (Xolair)	Information Unavailable
Reslizumab (Cinqaero)	0
Tezepelumab (Tezspire)	Information Unavailable

Question:
2. How many patients were treated for **severe asthma**, **COPD**, **CRwNP** with the following medicines in the 3 months between the start of July 2026 and the end of September 2026?

Answer:

Name of medicine	Severe asthma (please include all types or references to asthma)	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)	Chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps (CRwNP)
Benralizumab (Fasenra)	181		
Depemokimab (Exdensur)	0		Information Unavailable
Dupilumab (Dupixent)	30	Information Unavailable	Information Unavailable
Mepolizumab (Nucala)	92	Information Unavailable	Information Unavailable
Omalizumab (Xolair)	29		Information Unavailable
Reslizumab (Cinqaero)	0		
Tezepelumab (Tezspire)	133		Information Unavailable

Question:

3. How many patients were treated **by department** in total, regardless of diagnosis, with the following medicines in the 3 months between the start of July 2026 and the end of September 2026?

Answer:

July 2026 - September 2026			
Medication	**Respiratory departments**	**Dermatology departments**	**Other departments**
Benralizumab (Fasenra)	Information Unavailable	0	Information Unavailable
Depemokimab (Exdensur)	0	0	0
Dupilumab (Dupixent)	25	299	Information Unavailable
Mepolizumab (Nucala)	73	0	Information Unavailable
Omalizumab (Xolair)	Information Unavailable	90	Information Unavailable
Reslizumab (Cinqaero)	0	0	0
Tezepelumab (Tezspire)	Information Unavailable	0	Information Unavailable

Question:

4. How many patients with the following diagnoses were treated with **Dupilumab** in the 3 months between the start of July 2026 and the end of September 2026?

5. How many patients with the following diagnoses were treated with **Mepolizumab** in the 3 months between the start of July 2026 and the end of September 2026?

Answer:

There is no electronic linkage between pharmacy dispensing data and the diagnosis for which treatment was prescribed; therefore, NHS Lothian is unable to provide the information requested for questions 4 and 5.

We were able to provide a response to Q2 because the Respiratory Pharmacy team holds data for patients treated for asthma as a whole. However, the more detailed diagnostic breakdown requested in Q4 and Q5 is not held and cannot be extracted from existing systems.

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