

Freedom of Information Request - FOI2024/079

28 May 2024

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request.

Q1. 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.

Q2. In the past 3 months, how many patients with a primary diagnosis of GCA (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) were:

- Admitted as an inpatient
- Treated in A&E

Q3. How many patients were treated by the rheumatology department in the past 3 months with the following:

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

Q4. How many patients were treated by the ophthalmology department (for any disease) in the past 3 months with Tocilizumab?

Q5. How many patients were treated in A&E in the past 3 months for giant cell arteritis (GCA) with Tocilizumab?

I have considered your request and have set out the Trust's response below:

Q1. Yes

Q2. We treated 41 patients with GCA. We don't hold the breakdown between the 2 areas requested.

Q3. 53 patients for any disease, 0 for others

Q4. Less than 6*

Q5. Less than 6*

* Please note that the exact number of patients has been withheld and instead a range of below 6 has been provided, as this relates to a low number. Statistically low information can potentially identify individuals' data, especially due to the rural nature and low population of the county. It would be, in my view, possible to identify them if this data were to be provided to you. The data therefore consists of personal data and as such has been withheld under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Officer