

Ref: FOI2021/7807

Date Received: 16th November 2021

Response Due: 14th December 2021

Date: 1st December 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

I am researching the treatment of fungal infections. Could you please answer the following questions:

Q1. In the last 12 months, how many patients have been treated (for any condition) with the following drugs?

Drug Name	Number of Patients Treated
Amphotericin B (Ambisome)	12
Caspofungin (Cancidas)	<5
Isavuconazole (Cresemba)	<5
Posaconazole (Noxafil)	0
Voriconazole (VFEND)	14

Q2a. In the last 12 months, how many hospital inpatients were diagnosed with Aspergillosis (ICD10 code: B44)? Less than 5

Refusal Notice: Sec 40(2) Personal Information.

The Trust has a policy of not releasing information when the data involved is less than 5. This is because we feel that such low numbers could make the individuals involved identifiable and therefore may cause undue harm and distress.

To disclose this information would:

- a) Contravene the Data Protection Act principles in that it would amount to unfair and possibly unlawful processing, as there was a legitimate expectation by the third parties that this information would remain confidential, and

b) Disclosure may cause damage or distress to the individual(s) involved, and that damage or distress would be unwarranted (section 10 of the DPA).

Q2b. Of the above patients diagnosed with Aspergillosis in the last 12 months, how many patients were treated with the following drugs?

The pharmacy system does not record indication data, so we are unable to provide this information. If recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

- **Amphotericin B (Ambisome)**
- **Caspofungin (Cancidas)**
- **Isavuconazole (Cresemba)**
- **Posaconazole (Noxafil)**
- **Voriconazole (VFEND)**

Q3a. In the last 12 months, how many hospital inpatients were diagnosed with Mucormycosis (ICD10 code: B46)? None

Q3b. Of the above patients diagnosed with Mucormycosis in the last 12 months, how many patients were treated with the following drugs?

The pharmacy system does not record indication data, so we are unable to provide this information. If recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

- **Amphotericin B (Ambisome)**
- **Isavuconazole (Cresemba)**
- **Posaconazole (Noxafil)**

I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. If we do not hear from you within 28 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Lyon
Director of Operations – Specialist Services/Division of Surgery

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 1113