

Information Governance

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Ref: FOI2018/4723

Date Received: 13th June 2018
Response Due: 11th July 2018

10th July 2018

Dear

INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

We are now pleased to respond to your request for information under the FOI Act.

I have a Freedom of Information request within your Trust:

1 - In your Trust, how much did you spend on Biological and biosimilar medicines, in the past financial year ending April 2018?

2 – Have you developed a policy on how prescribers can switch their patients to biosimilars and support them in making informed choices to save resources?

If yes, please provide details

3 – Do you have any specific plans in place for the launch of biosimilar Adalimumab later in 2018?

4 – Are there any agreements in place between you the Provider and CCG that would enable savings in drug costs to be made? (For example, Gain share agreements where the benefits associated with more efficient use of medicines not reimbursed through national prices is shared between the Provider and the Clinical Commissioning Group party to the agreement. This included agreements for the switch to biosimilar products)

If “Yes”, then please provide the following details:

Agreement	Name of specific drugs involved	Disease Area	CCG(s) included in the Gainshare agreement	Savings apportioned between Provider and the CCG(s)
1	Infliximab			
2	Etanercept			
3	Rituximab			
4	Adalimumab			
5	Trastuzumab			
6				
7				

5 – Are there any other agreements with a CCG, not included in the above, for the following services?

If “Yes”, then please provide the following details:

<i>Agreement</i>	<i>Disease Area</i>	<i>CCG(s) included in the agreement</i>	<i>Name of specific drugs involved</i>	<i>Type of agreement with the Provider</i>
1	<i>Ophthalmology services (eg wet macular degeneration)</i>			
2	<i>Multiple Sclerosis</i>			
3	<i>Prostate Cancer</i>			
4	<i>Breast Cancer</i>			
5	<i>Haemophilia</i>			

To provide the accuracy needed for this report it would require to members of staff to review multiple drugs across two different systems. The time taken to carry out this process would exceed the time permitted under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act

Refusal Notice - The information that you have requested is exempt under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act because it will take more than 18 hours to retrieve and extract the relevant information.

12. — (1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

Regulation 4(3) of the Fees Regulations states that a public authority can only take into account the costs it reasonably expects to incur in carrying out the following permitted activities in complying with the request:

- determining whether the information is held;
- locating the information, or a document containing it;
- retrieving the information, or a document containing it; and
- extracting the information from a document containing it.

All public authorities should calculate the time spent on the permitted activities at the flat rate of £25 per person, per hour.

This means that the appropriate limit will be exceeded if it would require more than 18 hours work for all public authorities.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Foster', written in a cursive style.

Andrew Foster
Chief Executive

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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, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF