

# Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

## Information Governance Department

Suite 9  
Buckingham Row  
Brick Kiln Lane  
Wigan  
WN1 1XX

Email: [foi@wwl.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@wwl.nhs.uk)

Web: [www.wwl.nhs.uk](http://www.wwl.nhs.uk)

Ref: FOI/2022/8525

Date Received: 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Response Due: 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

### Q1. How many patients were treated in last 4 months by the Dermatology department with each of the following:

Please note that the data provide is from August to December 2022 as this includes a summation of data from WWL, Homecare and Timms and Parker (Leigh). It does not include any FP10s for these medications dispensed in the community.

Drug	Number of patients Aug- Dec 2022
Abrocitinib	0
Acitretin	41
Alitretinoin	8
Azathioprine	31
Baricitinib	0
Ciclosporin	15
Dupilumab	0
Methotrexate	162
Mycophenolate mofetil	14
Pimecrolimus	<5
Tacrolimus ointment	11
Tralokinumab	0
Upadacitinib	<5

<b>Phototherapy (UVB or PUVA)</b>	Unable to determine as issued as stock to dermatology rather than as direct patient issues (no data on the pharmacy systems)
-----------------------------------	--

### **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).

**Q2. Of the patients treated in the last 4 months with any of the products listed in Q1, please provide the number of patients by the following age-groups:**

- Age 6-11
- Age 12-17
- Age 18 and above

The Trust is unable to provide this information as DOB data is not recorded in our reporting systems.

**Q3. If possible, could you please provide the number of patients treated in the last 4 months for atopic dermatitis ONLY with:**

- Azathioprine
- Ciclosporin
- Methotrexate
- Mycophenolate mofetil
- Phototherapy (UVB or PUVA)

Pharmacy is unable to provide this information as indication data is only recorded for homecare patients and not WWL patients or Timms and Parker (Leigh) patients.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. 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 'Masterman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gary Masterman  
Associate Director of Pharmacy (Governance Assurance)

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 123 111