

Freedom of Information request 265-17

Request

I am writing to you today to request information regarding biologics and Severe Asthma treatments as used by your organisation.

I would like first to define what I mean by Severe Asthma:

“Severe Asthma is Asthma which requires treatment with guidelines suggested medications for GINA steps 4–5 asthma (high dose ICS# and LABA or leukotriene modifier/theophylline) for the previous year or systemic CS for greater than or equal to 50% of the previous year to prevent it from becoming “uncontrolled” or which remains “uncontrolled” despite this therapy”

(Source – Chung et al (2014), International ERS/ATS guidelines on definition, evaluation and treatment of severe asthma, Eur Respir J 2014; 43: 343–373 | DOI: 10.1183/09031936.00202013)

Using this definition:

- 1.) How many adult severe asthma patients have been seen via both in-patient visits and outpatient clinics in the last 3 months?
- 2.) How many adult severe asthma patients have you treated with a biologic in the last 3 months?
- 3.) Of these patients treated, can you provide which drugs they were treated with, as follows:
 - a. Omalizumab (Xolair)
 - b. Mepolizumab (Nucala)
 - c. Reslizumab (Cinqaero)

Response

1. Within the last 3 months approx. 10 patients with severe asthma have been seen via both in-patient and outpatient clinics.
2. No adult with severe asthma have been treated with a biologic in the last 3 months.
3. Not applicable.

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk.

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **265-17** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the

Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle,
Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.