

Freedom of Information request 166-22

Request

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

- Abrocitinib
- Acitretin
- Alitretinoin
- Azathioprine
- Baricitinib
- Ciclosporin
- Dupilumab
- Methotrexate
- Mycophenolate mofetil
- Pimecrolimus
- Tacrolimus ointment
- Tralokinumab
- Upadacitinib

Q2. Of the patients treated in the last 4 months with any of the products listed in Q1, how many patients were paediatric (age 17 or under)?

Q3. How many patients were treated in the last 4 months with phototherapy (UVB or PUVA) for atopic Dermatitis ONLY?

Response

1. Please see table below for the number of patients treated in the last 4 months by the Dermatology department:

Abrocitinib	0
Acitretin	
Alitretinoin	
Azathioprine	
Baricitinib	<5
Ciclosporin	
Dupilumab	14
Methotrexate	
Mycophenolate mofetil	
Pimecrolimus	
Tacrolimus ointment	
Tralokinumab	0
Upadacitinib	0

To extract figures for topical drugs would require a manual trawl through all patient notes and correspondence for all patients seen by the Dermatology department, and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, therefore under Section 12 we are not required to provide.

2. None of the patients treated in the last 4 months were paediatric.
3. In the past 4 months there have been <5 patients treated with phototherapy (UVB or PUVA) for atopic Dermatitis.

As NHS Borders is such a small Board and the number of patients is very small, to provide further details could allow individuals to be identified and we would be in breach of the Data Protection Act 2018. We are therefore withholding all other data under Section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This is in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics which states that any number that is less than five; actual numbers and potentially identifiable information is withheld to help maintain patient confidentiality due to potential risk of disclosure. Further information is available in the ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol.

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 **166-22** 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.