

18 September 2023

Freedom of Information request 620-23

Request

PART 1 – WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT 24.08.23

- ~~1. How many people are there with a diagnosis of MS in your Health Board area?~~
- ~~2. How many people with MS in your Health Board area (including the source for this number) are diagnosed as the following:~~
 - ~~a. Relapsing Remitting MS~~
 - ~~b. Primary Progressive MS~~
 - ~~c. Secondary Progressive MS~~
 - ~~d. Benign MS~~
 - ~~e. Unconfirmed Type~~

PART 2 :-

1. Are the following licenced drugs for multiple sclerosis (MS) approved for use on your local drugs formulary; and
2. Are the following licenced drugs for multiple sclerosis (MS) subject to any specific financial or clinical prescribing restrictions within your health board?
 - a. Avonex (interferon beta-1a)
 - b. Rebif (interferon beta-1a)
 - c. Plegridy (peginterferon beta-1a)
 - d. Betaferon (interferon beta 1b)
 - e. Extavia (interferon beta 1b)
 - f. Aubagio (teriflunomide)
 - g. Copaxone (glatiramer acetate)
 - h. Gilenya (fingolimod)
 - i. Lemtrada (alemtuzumab)
 - j. Ofatumumab (Kesimpta)
 - k. Ozanimod (Zeposia)
 - l. Plegidry (peginterferon beta 1a)
 - m. Ponesimod (Ponvory)
 - n. Siponimod (Mayzent)
 - o. Tecfidera (dimethyl fumarate)
 - p. Tysabri (natalizumab)
 - q. Mavenclad (Cladribine)
 - r. Ocrevus (ocrelizumab)
 - s. Botox (botulinum toxin)
 - t. Sativex (nabiximols)
 - u. Fampyra (fampridine)

PART 3 :-

Please provide a breakdown of the number of people with MS currently being prescribed each of the licenced drugs shown in PART 2.

Response

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PART 2

1. Under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere. The local drugs formulary is available to the public online, the link is provided below:

[Formulary | East Region Formulary \(nhs.scot\)](#)

2. Clinical prescribing restrictions are detailed on the [Formulary | East Region Formulary \(nhs.scot\)](#) webpage with free public access, therefore, under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere. Financial arrangements are maintained by NSS National Procurement. Therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

PART 3

This information is not held electronically. The data may be held in a patient's record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records 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 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.

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 **620-23** 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.