

11 October 2023

Freedom of Information request 693-23

Request

I have a Freedom of information query.

1. How many patients has your trust/health board treated in the past 6 months (for any disease) with the following drugs:
 - Aubagio (teriflunomide)
 - Avonex (interferon beta-1a)
 - Betaferon (interferon beta-1b)
 - Brabio (glatiramer acetate)
 - Copaxone (glatiramer acetate)
 - Extavia (beta interferon-1b)
 - Gilenya (fingolimod)
 - Lemtrada (alemtuzumab)
 - Kesimpta (ofatumumab)
 - Mavenclad (cladribine)
 - Mayzent (siponimod)
 - Ocrevus (ocrelizumab)
 - Plegridy (peginterferon beta-1a)
 - Ponvory (ponesimod)
 - Rebif (beta interferon-1a)
 - Tecfidera (dimethyl fumarate)
 - Tysabri (natalizumab)
 - Tysabri (natalizumab) pre-filled syringes ONLY
 - Vumerity (diroximel fumarate)
 - Zeposia (ozanimod)
2. It would also be very helpful if you could advise how many hospital patients seen in the past 12 months (as inpatients or outpatients) have a diagnosis for the following conditions:
 - Multiple sclerosis (any type)
 - Relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS)
 - Primary progressive multiple sclerosis (PPMS)
 - Secondary progressive multiple sclerosis (SPMS)

Clarification

For part 2 of the question below, the breakdown of MS types that is being requested are categories of MS for SNOMED coding, which are codes NHS Borders does not use. We could look at the ICD-10 coding for MS but this is a single code and will not differentiate between the types asked for. Do you want the data for the ICD-10 MS diagnosis for the past 12 months even though this will not give the detailed breakdown?

Yes, please provide data for ICD-10 MS diagnosis for past 12 months

Response

1. Due to an update to our Prescribing Data system while all data is transferred to a new drug database we are, at this point in time, unable to provide any prescribing data after April 2023. This is unprecedented and unfortunately this data is currently not held, therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 we cannot provide. This is consistent with discussions with the Scottish Prescribing Analyst Group.
2. There were 64 patients treated between August 2022 and July 2023 with a diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis.

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 **693-23** 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.