

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 23-261

12 April 2023

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we hold some of the information you are requesting

I'm requesting the following information on compassionate use medicines:

1) How many patients at your trust have been supplied medicines approved through the Early Access to Medicines Scheme (EAMS) each year between April 2014 and April 2023?

2014	7
2015	*
2016	14
2017	9
2018	22
2019	24
2020	23
2021	20
2022	22
2023	11

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

2) How many requests has your trust made to pharmaceutical companies for access to medicines offered through a company-led 'compassionate use' or 'free of charge' scheme each year between April 2014 and April 2023?

We only hold this data on schemes offered by companies. Schemes approved between this

period: 58

a. How many patients have received treatment with unlicensed medicines obtained this way each year between April 2014 and April 2023?

We do not hold this information.

3) How many requests have clinicians at your trust submitted to pharmaceutical companies for access to an unlicensed medicine to treat patients each year between April 2014 and April 2023, outside of a company-led scheme?

We do not hold this information.

a. How many patients have received treatment with unlicensed medicines obtained this way each year between April 2014 and April 2023?

We do not hold this information.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Data Protection Officer
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust**