

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 22-190

12 May 2022

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

1. How many current diabetic retinopathy (including DMO) patients do you have?*

2427

2. How many diabetic retinopathy (including DMO) patients do you have that are currently being monitored and held at "wait and see" but not yet progressed to needing any treatments (injections/laser/implant)?*

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

3. How many diabetic retinopathy (including DMO) patients do you have that have received treatment (injections/laser/implants) in the year April 2019-March 2020 inclusive (i.e. pre COVID-19)?*

2019: 378

2020: 434

Please note at the moment we cannot provide the figures from April 2019 to March 2020. The years are calculated January to December.

4. How many diabetic retinopathy (including DMO) patients do you have that have received treatment (injections/laser/implants) in the year April 2020-March 2021 inclusive (i.e. during COVID-19)?*

2021: 510.

Please note at the moment we cannot provide the figures from April 2019 to March 2020. The years are calculated January to December.

5. How many injections (Avastin/bevacizumab, Eylea/aflibercept, Lucentis/ranibizumab) have been used for diabetic retinopathy (including DMO) patients in the year April 2019-March 2020 inclusive (i.e. pre COVID-19)? Please break down by treatment.*

Please see below. Please note the year calculations for total number of injections and breakdown for ranibizumab/aflibercept and bevacizumab goes from January to December.

6. How many injections (Avastin/bevacizumab, Eylea/aflibercept, Lucentis/ranibizumab) have been used for diabetic retinopathy (including DMO) patients in the year April 2020-March 2021 inclusive (i.e. pre COVID-19)? Please break down by treatment.*

***Please break down by hospital within your trust**

Total number of Injections

Year	Total
2019	1300
2020	1163
2021	1387

Ranibizumab

Year	Total
2019	39
2020	39
2021	5

Aflibercept

Year	Total
2019	1258
2020	1118
2021	1379

Bevacizumab

Year	Total
2019	*
2020	6
2021	*

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).

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