

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 24-763**

21 October 2024

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

**Q1. How many patients have been treated in the past 3 months with the following agents for melanoma (any stage) :**

- **Cobimetinib:** - 0
- **Dabrafenib:** - 0
- **Dabrafenib + Trametinib:** - 7
- **Dacarbazine:** - 0
- **Denosumab:** - \*
- **Encorafenib + Binimetinib:** - 15
- **Ipilimumab monotherapy:** - \*
- **Ipilimumab + Nivolumab:** - \*
- **Nivolumab monotherapy:** - 23
- **Nivolumab + Relatlimab:** - \*
- **Pembrolizumab:** - 31
- **Trametinib:** - 0
- **Vemurafenib:** - 0
- **Vemurafenib + Cobimetinib:** - 0
- **Other active systemic anti-cancer therapy:** - \*
- **Palliative care only:** We do not hold this information due to the vast number of ways patient can be referred to palliative care services, some of which bypass University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust entirely.

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. This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

**Q2. If possible, could you please provide the patients treated in the past 3 months with the following agents for metastatic melanoma ONLY:**

- **Ipilimumab monotherapy:** - \*
- **Ipilimumab + Nivolumab:** - \*
- **Nivolumab monotherapy:** - 17
- **Nivolumab + Relatlimab:** - \*
- **Pembrolizumab:** - 17
- **Any Targeted Therapy (Dabrafenib /Dabrafenib AND Trametinib /Encorafenib AND Binimetinib/Trametinib/Vemurafenib/Vemurafenib AND Cobimetinib):** - 14
- **Other active systemic anti-cancer therapy:** - \*
- **Palliative care only:** We do not hold this information due to the vast number of ways patient can be referred to palliative care services, some of which bypass University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust entirely.

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. This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

**Q3. In the last 3 months, how many patients have been initiated\* on the following agents for treatment for melanoma?**

- **Ipilimumab (monotherapy):** - \*
- **Nivolumab (monotherapy):** - 17
- **Nivolumab AND Ipilimumab (combination):** - \*
- **Nivolumab AND Relatlimab:** - \*
- **Pembrolizumab:** - 8
- **Any Targeted Therapy (Dabrafenib /Dabrafenib AND Trametinib /Encorafenib AND Binimetinib /Trametinib /Vemurafenib /Vemurafenib AND Cobimetinib):** - 8
- **Other active systemic anti-cancer therapy:** - \*

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. This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

**\*Patients are considered initiated if they have not been treated in the previous 6 months with any of the drugs that are part of the named regimen.**

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**