

File reference	W17FOI317
Key words	Severe asthma and medicines used
Date of release	04/07/2017
Attachments	Yes L3

Freedom of Information Act Disclosure log - Reply Extract

You asked

I am writing to you today to request information regarding biologics and Severe Asthma treatments as used by your organisation.

I would like first to define what I mean by Severe Asthma:

“Severe Asthma is Asthma which requires treatment with guidelines suggested medications for GINA steps 4–5 asthma (high dose ICS# and LABA or leukotriene modifier/theophylline) for the previous year or systemic CS for greater than or equal to 50% of the previous year to prevent it from becoming “uncontrolled” or which remains “uncontrolled“ despite this therapy”

(Source – Chung et al (2014), *International ERS/ATS guidelines on definition, evaluation and treatment of severe asthma*, Eur Respir J 2014; 43: 343–373 | DOI: 10.1183/09031936.00202013)

Using this definition:

1.) How many adult severe asthma patients have been seen via both in-patient visits and outpatient clinics in the last 3 months?

Based on ICD10 coding of J46X (Status asthmaticus) there have been seven patients admitted to Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust (PHNT) between March 1st – May 31st 2017.

We do not hold the outpatient attendances in an electronically reportable format.

2.) How many adult severe asthma patients have you treated with a biologic in the last 3 months?

Between 45 and 49 patients

3.) Of these patients treated, can you provide which drugs they were treated with, as follows:

- **Omalizumab (Xolair)** = 44 patients were treated with omalizumab
- **Mepolizumab (Nucala)** = Five or fewer patients treated with Mepolizumab
- **Reslizumab (Cinqaero)** = Nil

Legal notes

Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust is confirming in accordance with section 1 (a) of the Act that it holds the information requested and is supplying it in accordance with section 1(b) unless otherwise specified.

Please find the answers to your questions noting that we have redacted the data set where numbers are five or fewer. This avoids a breach of the first two Data Protection Act principles. This is in accordance with section 40.-(2)(a) and (b) by virtue of section 40.-(3)(a)(i), the personal information exemption as described in the Freedom of Information Act. A detailed rationale is provided in the attached document L3.

Attachments included: Yes - L3