

## Freedom of Information Act Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

1. Does your Trust manage or outsource chemotherapy preparation? **Combination of both**
2. How many chemotherapy drugs did you make in January 2025? **779**
3. How many chemotherapy drugs did you make in February 2025? **641**
4. How many chemotherapy drugs did you make in March 2025? **690**
5. What was your total volume (in number of doses) of chemotherapy preparation in the year 24/25?  
**8636**
6. What was your total volume (in number of doses) of chemotherapy preparation in the year 23/24?  
**10177**
7. What did your Trust spend on chemotherapy related laboratory consumables in 24/25?

The Trust is unable to provide the requested information regarding the spend on chemotherapy-related laboratory consumables. This information is managed by an outsourced quality control service provider, and disclosure of these details would prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust and the third-party supplier.

In accordance with Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this information is exempt from disclosure. Section 43(2) applies where the release of information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

### **Explanation:**

Releasing the specific spend on chemotherapy-related laboratory consumables would likely undermine the Trust's ability to negotiate future contracts on favourable terms and could prejudice the commercial position of the external provider by disclosing information that may give competitors an unfair advantage.

The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure in this instance, as protecting the Trust's and supplier's commercial interests ensures best value for public funds in future procurements.

8. What was the total spend on chemotherapy drugs within your Trust in 24/25? **£12,475,394, this figure includes the spend on supportive therapies, including anti-emetics, GCSFs, emollients**

**and skin care products, pain medications, mouth care products, laxatives/anti-diarrheals, antifungals/antivirals/antibiotics, bone-protecting agents, steroids, and drugs for tumour lysis syndrome prevention.**

9. What was the total spend on chemotherapy drugs within your Trust in 23/24? **£11,082,221, this figure includes the spend on supportive therapies.**
10. What was the total volume of chemotherapy drugs used on patients in the year 24/25? **The total volume of chemotherapy drugs used on patients in the year 24/25, as a single cumulative figure, is not informative due to the wide variety of medications and their differing units of measurement. The data below showing the total volume of each product for the top 10 most commonly prescribed chemotherapy drugs for that period.**
- 848 x 1 vial pack of Denosumab (vial) 120mg in 1.7ml injection
  - 810 x 112 tablet pack of Enzalutamide 40mg tablets
  - 654 x 1 vial pack of Pertuzumab 600mg + Trastuzumab 600mg injection
  - 420 x 120 tablet pack of Capecitabine 500mg Tablets
  - 418 x 5ml vial pack of Trastuzumab 600mg in 5ml injection
  - 429 x 4ml vial pack of Pembrolizumab 100mg in 4ml injection
  - 324 x 1 vial pack of Docetaxel 80mg in 4ml injection for infusion
  - 290 x 40ml vial pack of Oxaliplatin 200mg in 40ml intravenous infusion
  - 290 x 1 vial pack of Paclitaxel 300mg in 50ml injection for infusion
  - 285 x 1 vial pack of Pemetrexed 500mg injection
11. What was the total volume of chemotherapy drugs purchased in the year 24/25? **A single ‘total volume’ for all chemotherapy drugs purchased in the Trust for the year 24/25 would be uninformative and potentially misleading, given the wide variety of medications and their different units of measurement. Therefore, the data below details the total purchase volume for each of the top 10 most commonly prescribed chemotherapy drugs (as listed in Question 10).**
- 862 x 1 vial pack of Denosumab (vial) 120mg in 1.7ml injection
  - 833 x 112 tablet pack of Enzalutamide 40mg tablets
  - 652 x 1 vial pack of Pertuzumab 600mg + Trastuzumab 600mg injection
  - 430 x 120 tablet pack of Capecitabine 500mg Tablets
  - 400 x 5ml vial pack of Trastuzumab 600mg in 5ml injection
  - 451 x 4ml vial pack of Pembrolizumab 100mg in 4ml injection
  - 339 x 1 vial pack of Docetaxel 80mg in 4ml injection for infusion
  - 322 x 40ml vial pack of Oxaliplatin 200mg in 40ml intravenous infusion
  - 308 x 1 vial pack of Paclitaxel 300mg in 50ml injection for infusion
  - 264 x 1 vial pack of Pemetrexed 500mg injection
12. How many staff do you currently have working on chemotherapy preparation?  
**Including worksheet preparation and product release: 6.4 per day (rotational team)**
13. What equipment is used in preparation? **Negative pressure pharmaceutical isolator, personal protective equipment (PPE), and ancillary equipment and supplies**

14. Does your Trust use robotic automation in the preparation of chemotherapy patient delivery? **No**
15. How many aseptic suites do you use for chemotherapy preparation? **One**
16. What is the grade of aseptic suites used for chemotherapy preparation? **Grade A isolator in grade D clean room suite**

Who is the lead pharmacist for chemotherapy preparation and what is their NHS email address?

While the Trust can confirm that a lead pharmacist for chemotherapy preparation is in post, we are unable to provide their name and direct NHS email address.

This information is exempt under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Personal Information. The disclosure of this information would breach the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR), specifically the principle regarding fair and lawful processing of personal data.

**Explanation:**

The individual concerned would not reasonably expect their direct contact details to be made publicly available without their consent, especially where there is no indication that they hold a public-facing role or are of sufficient seniority (typically board or executive level) where such details would usually be in the public domain.

If you wish to contact the chemotherapy pharmacy service, please direct your enquiry through the Trust's main contact channels or generic pharmacy department email address, where your query will be appropriately directed.

[dbth.medicines.information@nhs.net](mailto:dbth.medicines.information@nhs.net)

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days from the date of this response, and should be addressed to [d.wraith@nhs.net](mailto:d.wraith@nhs.net).

If you remain dissatisfied after the internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Our Ref: 385  
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Tel: 0303 123 1113

Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>