

## Freedom of Information Act Request

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

Q1. In the last 6 months, how many patients have been diagnosed with Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL)?

Q1a. Of these patients, how many commenced treatment at your trust within the last 6 months?

After reviewing our systems, we can confirm that the Trust does not hold the information in the specific format requested. Our clinical and coding systems do not capture diagnoses in real-time in a way that enables us to report accurately on the number of patients diagnosed with DLBCL within a defined 6-month period, nor can we link this directly to treatment commencement.

We may be able to identify the number of patients admitted with a recorded diagnosis of DLBCL, but this would not reflect:

- The total number of new diagnoses (as some patients may have been diagnosed previously or elsewhere), or
- Whether or when treatment commenced at our Trust.

Q2. In the last 6 months, how many patients have you treated for Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) with the following treatments:

- R-CHOP (rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin hydrochloride, vincristine and prednisolone)
- R-mini-CHOP (rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin hydrochloride, vincristine and prednisolone)
- Pola-BR (polatuzumab vedotin with rituximab and bendamustine)
- Pola-R-CHP (Polatuzumab vedotin with rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin hydrochloride, and prednisolone)
- R-CODOX-M (rituximab, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, doxorubicin and methotrexate)
- R-IVAC (rituximab, ifosfamide, etoposide and cytarabine)
- R-GCVP (Rituximab, gemcitabine, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, prednisolone)
- (DA)-EPOCH +/-R (Prednisolone, doxorubicin, vincristine, etoposide, cyclophosphamide, rituximab)
- R-GemOX (rituximab, gemcitabine and oxaliplatin)
- Axicabtagene ciloleucel
- Tisagenlecleucel
- Epcoritamab

- Loncastuximab tesirine
- Glofitamab
- Any other SACT
- Stem cell transplant or bone marrow transplant (autologous or allogeneic)

I am writing to confirm that DBTH holds the information on the subject you have requested. However, I advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit. This is because our pharmacy system doesn't store diagnosis data, so we're unable to determine this against the prescribed treatment. To ascertain this data, the Trust would need to perform an audit of each individual patient record, which wouldn't be achievable within the s.12 timescale of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

. Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, We have estimated that it would take more than 18 hours to carry out a manual search to locate, retrieve, and extract all the information you have requested. In this situation the associated cost would therefore exceed the appropriate fee limit of £450 set out under Freedom of Information & Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2007.

The fee limit specified in regulations for NHS trusts represents the cost of one person spending 2½ working days at a rate of £25 per hour determining whether the Trust holds the information sought and then locating, retrieving and extracting that information.

Q3. In the last 6 months, how many patients have received the following 2nd line treatments for Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL):

- Axicabtagene ciloleucel (Yescarta)
- Tisagenlecleucel
- Pola-BR (polatuzumab vedotin with rituximab and bendamustine)
- R-GemOX (rituximab, gemcitabine and oxaliplatin)
- Stem cell transplant or bone marrow transplant (autologous or allogeneic)
- Any other treatments

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Q4. In the last 6 months, how many patients has the Trust treated for 3rd line Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL)?

We can confirm that the Trust holds information on patient treatments; however, we are unable to determine treatment lines (such as 3rd line Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma) without conducting a detailed manual review of individual patient records. The Trust's pharmacy and clinical systems do not hold structured data that links diagnosis to specific treatment lines in a searchable format.

As with Question 3, retrieving this information would exceed the appropriate time and cost limits set out in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. We estimate that locating, retrieving, and extracting this information would take longer than 18 hours, as it would involve manual review of individual records, which is not achievable within the statutory cost limit of £450.

Q5. In the last 6 months, how many patients have you referred to other trusts for the treatment of Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) for the following treatments:

- CAR-T Therapy (E.g. Axicabtagene ciloleucel)
- Stem cell transplant or bone marrow transplant (autologous or allogeneic)
- Any other treatment

The Trust does not centrally record the level of detail requested regarding the specific treatment type (such as CAR-T Therapy or Stem Cell Transplant) associated with patient referrals to other Trusts for Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL). While referral destinations and general diagnostic categories may be recorded, the clinical rationale and intended treatment are typically included in free-text referral letters and are not held in a reportable or searchable format.

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To obtain this information would require a manual review of individual patient referral records, which would exceed the appropriate cost and time limits under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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

Tel: 0303 123 1113

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