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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Tracy Myhill**

gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser
caring for each other, working together, always improving

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 13th November 2020
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 20-I-010

☎ 01639 648363

✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[REDACTED]

Corporate Services
Headquarters
1 Talbot Gateway
Baglan
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Dear [REDACTED],

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 14th September 2020. Your request sought information relating to Lupus patients and our response to you on the 14th September 2020 (20-H-025).

We had confirmed in our previous response to you that 5 IPFR applications from Lupus patients had been received and agreed.

This raises two further questions in relation to our response:

1. Can lupus patients be referred to Lupus Centres of Excellence / Lupus Experts under a different system, namely "prior authorisation"? Or is an IPFR application the only way this can happen?

Yes they can – via prior authorisation or IPFR application. However this is dependent on specifics of the request as to which process is appropriate.

2. How many Lupus (SLE) patients have received Rituximab treatment by infusion, since the NICE BSR Guideline for the Management of SLE in Adults was published in October 2017?

You clarified on 27th October 2020 that you are referring to all Lupus patients, not just those who request IFPRs.

Swansea Bay Health Board does not hold this information centrally. To obtain this information would involve a manual trawl and search of patient records which we have estimated would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI Act as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOI Act 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



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

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therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

3. In the same period, i.e. from 2017 to date, how many lupus patients have been treated with Ciclosporin, tacrolimus or belimumab?

You clarified on 27th October 2020 that you are referring to all Lupus patients, not just those who request IFPRs.

Please see question 2.

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

