

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4784

Please reply to:
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Trust Management
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Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

07 August 2018

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to Biological and Biosimilar medicines.

You asked:

1 - In your Trust, how much did you spend on Biological and biosimilar medicines, in the past financial year ending April 2018?

2 – Have you developed a policy on how prescribers can switch their patients to biosimilars and support them in making informed choices to save resources?

If yes, please provide details

3 – Do you have any specific plans in place for the launch of biosimilar Adalimumab later in 2018?

4 – Are there any agreements in place between you the Provider and CCG that would enable savings in drug costs to be made? (For example, Gainshare agreements where the benefits associated with more efficient use of medicines not reimbursed through national prices is shared between the Provider and the Clinical Commissioning Group party to the agreement. This included agreements for the switch to biosimilar products)

If “Yes”, then please provide the following details:

5 – Are there any other agreements with a CCG, not included in the above, for the following services?

If “Yes”, then please provide the following details:

Trust response:

1 - This information is available on the Model Hospital site and via the IMS IQVIA data.

<https://apps.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/MOD/AtlasTrustsMedsop/atlas.html>

2 – We have a plan for biosimilar switching and always provide patient information

3 – Yes

4 – The Trust is applying Section 43(2) FOIA which provides an exemption from disclosure of information which would or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

This is a qualified exemption, and is therefore subject to the public interest test.

The Trust has concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption, and therefore protecting the commercial interests of the suppliers and preserving its ability to compete fairly in a commercial market, outweighs the public interest in disclosure in this case.

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