

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004

Date received	23/09/2022	Subject	Medications	
Date passed	26/09/2022	Respond by	14/10/2022	
Passed to	Pharmacy		FOI number	2022-397
Category of information requested	H&SC Delivery - Pharmacy			

Question/s to be answered

1. How many patients has your trust / health board treated in the past 6 months (for any disease) with the following drugs:

Drug	Number of patients
Aubagio (teriflunomide)	0
Avonex (interferon beta-1a)	0
Betaferon (interferon beta-1b)	0
Brabio (glatiramer acetate)	3
Copaxone (glatiramer acetate)	0
Extavia (beta interferon-1b)	1
Gilenya (fingolimod)	1
Lemtrada (alemtuzumab)	0
Kesimpta (ofatumumab)	0
Mavenclad (cladribine)	0
Mayzent (siponimod)	0
Ocrevus (ocrelizumab)	0
Plegridy (peginterferon beta-1a)	0
Ponvory (ponesimod)	0
Rebif (beta interferon-1a)	1
Tecfidera (dimethyl fumarate)	15
Tysabri (natalizumab)	0
Tysabri (natalizumab) pre-filled syringes ONLY	0
Vumerity (diroximel fumarate)	0
Zeposia (ozanimod)	0

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2. It would also be very helpful if you could advise how many hospital patients seen in the past 6 months (as inpatients or outpatients) have a diagnosis for the following conditions:

- Multiple sclerosis (MS) (any type)

Inpatients / day patients in the period 1 April to 28 September 2022: 5 (3)

Please note the following:

- This figure is for admissions and not patients.
- Our hospital system records diagnoses of inpatient and day patients according to the International Classification of Diseases v10 (ICD-10). ICD-10 code G35 is for multiple sclerosis (MS) and is used for this part of the question.
- Our coding team will apply a code if a patient has a condition, even if it is not the cause of the admission, but they apply codes in priority order. The number in brackets is the number of admissions where G35 is applied in the highest priority position.
- There is always a delay between a patient's discharge and the application of their diagnosis code(s) and so the figures above may be less than the actual number
- For comparison, the figures for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 were 13 (1) admissions (see above for an explanation of the number in brackets)

We do not record diagnoses for outpatients, and so under FOISA s 17(1) NHS Shetland confirms that it does not hold the information requested.

We do have an outpatient clinic which is for patients with MS but which also sees patients with motor neurone disease (MND) and we cannot separate these patients without checking the case file for each individual patient. Noting that we cannot report separately for MS and MND it may nonetheless be helpful to report that attendance in this clinic in the period 1 April to 28 September 2022 was 275 distinct patients over a total of 363 appointments.

- Relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS)

Data not held – see below

- Primary progressive multiple sclerosis (PPMS)

Data not held – see below

- Secondary progressive multiple sclerosis (SPMS)

Data not held – see below

In accordance with FOISA s 17(1), NHS Shetland confirms that it does not hold the information requested.

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As noted above, ICD-10 code G35 is for MS, but there are no ICD-10 subdivisions for the categories of MS listed in your question.

Therefore, collation of this information would require a clinical audit of individual patient notes and judgements/assumptions on diagnosis would need to be made.

Please note that in paragraph 46 of the Scottish Information Commissioner's briefing on FOISA s 17 (<https://www.itspublicknowledge.info/sites/default/files/2022-03/BriefingSection17Informationnoheld.pdf>) it is stated that:

“if collation of the information would require skill and complex judgement, the information is not held.”

For the reasons stated above, NHS Shetland considers that the collation of the requested information would require skill and complex judgement.