

Trust Headquarters  
Russell's Hall Hospital  
Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY1 2HQ

**Ref:** FOI-000413

**Date:** 15/1/23

**Address / Email:**

Dear

**Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please see response below.

Q1. Does your trust or health board treat giant cell arteritis (GCA)? If not, please provide the name of the hospital or trust that you refer GCA patients to. - Yes

Q2. In the past 3 months, how many patients with a primary diagnosis of GCA (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) were:

Admitted as an inpatient - As per NHS Digital rules the Trust does not publish numbers lower than 5 as this could lead to the identification of the persons involved and cause distress to Families or Friends. The number over the months requested is less than 5 so Exemption Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act is applied.

Treated in A&E - None

Q3. How many patients were treated by the rheumatology department in the past 3 months with the following:

Tocilizumab – for any disease 66 patients were issued with Tocilizumab at the request of Rheumatology (Jun 23 – Aug 23)

Tocilizumab for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) only – Not known, we can only say who was issued with a drug not what specific condition it was used for

Tocilizumab for giant cell arteritis (GCA) only - None

Q4. How many patients were treated by the ophthalmology department (for any disease) in the past 3 months with Tocilizumab? - 0 patients were issued with Tocilizumab at the request of Ophthalmology (Jun 23 – Aug 23)

Q5. How many patients were treated in A&E in the past 3 months for giant cell arteritis (GCA) with Tocilizumab? - 0

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager  
Trust Headquarters  
Russell's Hall Hospital  
Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY1 2HQ  
Email: [dgft.dpo@nhs.net](mailto:dgft.dpo@nhs.net)

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Tel: 0303 123 1113  
[www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team**  
**The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust**