

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

Ref: FOI-112023-000445

Date: 02/04/2024

Address / Email:

Dear

**Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

**Response**

- 1. Do you administer Lucentis, Eylea or Vabysmo to patients? If you administer several; are you able to share the approximate split in patients treated by each?**

**Yes, DGFT prescribe, supply, and administer these medicines.**

***In the 12-months Dec22-Nov23, a total of 1217 patients were treated with the listed Ophthalmology drugs. In that 12-month period, some patients were issued more than one drug. Each of the treatments have been issued to the following number of patients:***

<b>Drug</b>	<b>PT Count</b>
<i>Lucentis (Ranibizumab)</i>	<b>525</b>
<i>Eylea (Aflibercept)</i>	<b>519</b>
<i>Vabysmo (Faricimab)</i>	<b>387</b>

- 2. If you have previously administered Lucentis - have you swapped over to biosimilars? If yes - are you able to share which (Ximluci, Byooviz or Ongavia)?**

**Yes, DGFT is in the process of prescribing, supply and administer the biosimilar ranibizumab in December 2023.**

- 3. Do you expect the introduction of Ranibizumab biosimilars to shift Eylea and Vabysmo patients over to Lucentis biosimilars?**

**DGFT is following the prevailing NICE guidance associated with the clinical condition and NHSE Commissioning Policy.**

[NHS England » Operational note: updated commissioning recommendations for medical retinal vascular medicines following the national procurement for ranibizumab biosimilars](#)

- 4. Are you experiencing patients being untreated due to the high cost of the previous mentioned drugs? If yes - are you expecting to treat more patients with lower-priced Ranbizumab biosimilars available?**

**No**

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**