

Ref. No: 2103
Date: 10th October
Subject: Medicines in Secondary Care

REQUEST

An extract from the chemotherapy ePMA system showing patients treated by drug and diagnosis, as specified in table 1 (below).

1. SACT Cancer report

An extract of records from the chemotherapy ePMA dated between **1st October 2024 and 30th September 2025**, or to the latest date for which data is available, for all solid tumour and haematology malignancies (ICD-10 primary diagnosis codes C* and D*)

Source: NHS Digital, NHS Data Model and Dictionary, Systemic Anti-cancer Therapy Data Set

https://www.datadictionary.nhs.uk/data_sets/clinical_data_sets/systemic_anti-cancer_therapy_data_set.html

Organisation code (code of provider)
Organisation identifier (of SACT administration)
Care professional main specialty code (start systemic anti-cancer therapy)
Primary diagnosis (ICD-10 3rd or 4th digit)
Morphology (ICD-O)
TNM stage
Adjunctive therapy type
Regimen treatment intent
Drug Regimen
Start date (systemic anti-cancer therapy drug regimen)
Clinical trial indicator
Drug name
Actual dose
Unit of measure
Route of administration
Cycle number
Number of planned cycles
SACT administration date
Regimen modification indicator
Curative treatment completed as planned

Non-curative treatment patient benefit indicator
Toxicity modification indicator

RESPONSE

Please see attached

Some of the requested areas we have been unable to provide as these are either not recorded or are in patient notes.

Section 12: cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit

Following a thorough assessment, we regret to inform you that Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust is unable to comply with your request, as doing so would exceed the cost limit set out under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 12 states that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of doing so would exceed the appropriate limit, which is currently set at £450 for NHS organisations. This equates to 18 hours of staff time, calculated at a standard rate of £25 per hour, as defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

In this case, fulfilling your request would require **[Over 10000 lines of data and to find relevant record assuming 1 minute per record equals 166 hours]**. The Trust has estimated that locating, retrieving, and extracting the relevant information would significantly exceed the 18-hour threshold, even with reasonable efforts to narrow the scope.

We are therefore applying Section 12 of the Act and will not be proceeding with the request in its current form.

However, we would be happy to assist you in refining your request to bring it within the cost limit. For example, narrowing the timeframe, specifying particular departments, or focusing on a specific aspect of the information may help reduce the burden of compliance.

Please let us know if you would like support in revising your request.