

Ref. No: 2286
Date: 13/01/26
Subject: Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) Treatment and Switching

REQUEST & RESPONSE

FOI Request: Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) Treatment and Switching

Question 1. How many patients with HIV in total were seen for care and treated with ART in your Trust in the latest 3 months of available data?

176 total patients treated with ART

Question 2. How many patients newly diagnosed with HIV were initiated on Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) in your Trust in the latest 3 months of available data?

<5 total patients newly diagnosed initiated on ART

Question 3. How many patients with HIV have had their ART switched in your Trust in the latest 3 months of available data?

Section 12 form patients who switched therapy

Question 4. Of the patients identified in Question 3, how many were switched from/to the following therapies?

Therapy	Total switched patients
Emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide (fixed dose combination) + any other ART to Biktarvy (bictegravir/emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide)	
Emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide (fixed dose combination) + any other ART to Dovato (dolutegravir/lamivudine)	
Emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil (fixed dose combination) + any other ART to Biktarvy (bictegravir/emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide)	
Emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil (fixed dose combination) + any other ART to Dovato (dolutegravir/lamivudine)	
Triumeq (dolutegravir/abacavir/lamivudine) to Biktarvy (bictegravir/emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide)	
Triumeq (dolutegravir/abacavir/lamivudine) to Dovato (dolutegravir/lamivudine)	
Biktarvy (bictegravir/emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide) to Dovato (dolutegravir/lamivudine)	
Any other ART** to Biktarvy (bictegravir/emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide)	
Any other ART** to Dovato (dolutegravir/lamivudine)	

**** NOTE:** “Any other ART” - if the patient was given one of the regimens listed earlier, leave that patient in the rows above so they are not double counted.

Question 5. Please specify the dates of the latest 3 months of available date in month / year format.

_____ MM/YY

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 checking individual patients records and the Trust has estimated this time to be in excess of 505 hours. This involves locating, retrieving, and extracting the relevant information. This exceeds 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.