

Ref. No: 0258
Date: 15/09/23
Subject: Intra-vitreous injections / implants

REQUEST

I am analysing the usage of intra-vitreous injections or implants by the NHS. I would greatly appreciate if you could answer the following questions:

1. How many of the following intra-vitreous injections/implants has your Trust administered in the four-month period from May to August 2023:

- Aflibercept
- Bevacizumab - Avastin
- Bevacizumab - Biosimilar
- Brolucizumab
- Dexamethasone
- Faricimab
- Fluocinolone acetonide
- Ranibizumab – Lucentis (pre-filled syringes)
- Ranibizumab – Lucentis (vials)
- Ranibizumab – Ongavia

2. Please provide the number of injections/implants by eye condition for the four-month period from May to August 2023:

Number of Injections/Implants: May - August 2023

Treatment	Eye Conditions		
	WAMD*	DMO**	RVO***
Aflibercept			
Bevacizumab			
Dexamethasone			
Faricimab			
Ranibizumab - Lucentis			
Ranibizumab - Ongavia			

* Wet Age-Related Macular Degeneration (WAMD)

** Diabetic Macular Oedema (DMO)

*** Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO)

RESPONSE

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust became a single legal entity known as Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust on 1st July 2023, as this request relates to historic data we have provided the response in two sections relating to the hospital sites of each of the legacy organisations.

1. How many of the following intra-vitreous injections/implants has your Trust administered in the four-month period from May to August 2023:

Intra-Vitreous Injections / Implants	No. of Administrations
Aflibercept	709
Bevacizumab - Avastin	0
Bevacizumab - Biosimilar	0
Brolucizumab	10
Dexamethasone	33*
Faricimab	154
Fluocinolone acetonide	0
Ranibizumab – Lucentis (pre-filled syringes)	622
Ranibizumab – Lucentis (vials)	0
Ranibizumab – Ongavia	<5**

* This figure does not include data from the Pharmacy Department at Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust, as usage figures are not recorded i.e. Pharmacy supply a kit for preparation, with intra-vitreous dexamethasone made up on the ward.

** Section 40: personal information

We are unable to provide precise figures when those figures refer to individuals in volumes of 5 or less due to the risk that individuals will be re-identified, as we are required to protect their identity under the General Data Protection Regulations & Data Protection Act 2018. In such circumstances Section 40(2) and Section 40(3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle which states that personal data should be processed “lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner”. It is the lawful aspect of this principle which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure, and in such circumstances, Section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure.

2. Please provide the number of injections/implants by eye condition for the four-month period from May to August 2023:

Treatment	Eye Conditions		
	WAMD*	DMO**	RVO***
Aflibercept	543	88	83
Bevacizumab	0	0	0
Dexamethasone	0	<5	18
Faricimab	122	20	0
Ranibizumab - Lucentis	444	59	118
Ranibizumab - Ongavia	0	0	0

* Wet Age-Related Macular Degeneration (WAMD)

** Diabetic Macular Oedema (DMO)

*** Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO)

Section 40: personal information

Please note <5 has been added where the number of individuals is 5 or less, this information has been redacted to protect the confidentiality of individuals and to ensure they cannot be identified.