

Trust Headquarters  
Russells Hall Hospital  
Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY1 2HQ

Date: 05/11/2012

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Ref: FOI/011243**

With reference to your FOI request that was received on 24/09/2012 in connection with 'IMS Health - NICE approved medicines'.

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is enclosed

Further information about your rights is also available from the Information Commissioner at:

**Information Commissioner**

Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF  
Tel: 0303 123 1113  
Fax: 01625 524510  
[www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Manager  
Room 34a, First Floor, Esk House, Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley, DY1 2HQ  
Email: [FOI@dgh.nhs.uk](mailto:FOI@dgh.nhs.uk)

Please find the responses to your request in turn below.

**Please confirm or deny whether your Trust undertakes testing of Hepatitis C.**

Yes, the Trust does undertake testing for Hepatitis C

**If confirmed, does your Trust carry out i) antibody test; ii) polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test; or iii) genotype test for the diagnosis of Hepatitis C.**

The Trust carries out an antibody test and confirmatory antibody test.

**If confirmed, please provide details of the number of i) antibody tests; ii) polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test; or iii) genotype tests carried out in 2010/11 and 2011/12.**

The Trust carried out 3861 Hep C antibody tests in 2010/11 and 3703 in 2011/12.

The Trust does not carry out PCR investigations but sends them to a reference laboratory when requested. The number of PCR tests referred in 2010/11 was 239 and in 2011/12 was 216.

The Trust only carries out genotyping after a further request from the clinician. The number of genotype tests referred in 2010/11 was 34 and in 2011/12 was 38.

**Please confirm or deny whether your Trust holds guidance or policies concerning testing of Hepatitis C.**

No, The Trust does not hold guidance or policies concerning testing of Hepatitis C.

**If confirmed, does your Trust automatically implement a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test if the result received from an antibody test is positive?**

No the clinician has to request it.

**If confirmed, does your Trust carry out a genotype test only after a further specific request from the clinician?**

Yes the clinician has to request it.

**Please confirm or deny whether your Trust holds information on the number of a) full-time equivalent specialist Hepatitis C nursing posts and b) full-time equivalent specialist.**

Yes, there are Hepatitis C nurses currently employed

**a. If confirmed, please provide details of the number of a) full-time equivalent specialist Hepatitis C nursing posts, and b) the number of full-time equivalent specialist Hepatitis C nurses currently employed**

The Trust has two posts at 1.6WTE in a role named blood-borne virus (BBV) nurse specialists who undertake blood borne virus screening and also see and follow up hepatology patients at the hospital. These posts see mainly hep c and hep b positive patients.

**b. If confirmed, please provide details confirm how many full-time equivalent posts for specialist Hepatitis C nurses in the Trust are currently unfilled.**

There are no other vacancies related to the requestors question at this time.

**Please confirm or deny whether your Trust implements epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) testing for patients diagnosed with non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)**

The Trust does EGFR testing on Adeno Carcinomas of the lung. The system we have is that the case is discussed at one of our Multi Disciplinary Team meetings (MDTs), and if agreed: the specimen is sent off for testing.

The EGFR test is undertaken at UHB – Phillipe Taniere, Consultant Histopathologist has provided the following information ([Phillipe.Taniere@uhb.nhs.uk](mailto:Phillipe.Taniere@uhb.nhs.uk))

**If confirmed, please confirm how many patients diagnosed with non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) received EGFR tests in 2011-12 and 2010-11**

2010: 5 patients

2011: 25 patients

2012 - 03.10.12: 22 patients

**b. If confirmed, please confirm what proportion of patients diagnosed with non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) received EGFR tests in 2011-12 and 2010-11**

All patients that require the test are tested however the Trust has not previously collated this information.

**Please confirm or deny whether your Trust has established a fracture liaison service – which for the purposes of this request means an integrated clinical service where patients presenting with fracture are systematically assessed for osteoporosis and then offered appropriate interventions to reduce their future fracture risk**

The Trust has not established a dedicated liaison service or systematic assessment service at this current time.

**If confirmed, please provide details of policies or guidance used within the Trust concerning the implementation of its fracture liaison service**

Not applicable

**If confirmed, please provide details of the staff numbers, or full-time equivalents, and their specialities used within the Trust to implement its fracture liaison service**

Not applicable

**Please confirm or deny whether alitretinon is included on your Trust's formulary for the treatment of severe hand eczema**

The Formulary can be found under the following link on the Formulary Website:

<http://www.dudley.nhs.uk/Formulary/Index.aspx?id=22>

The Formulary is used by Dudley PCT and the Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. The link for the preparations for eczema can be found under the following link <http://www.dudley.nhs.uk/Formulary/LevelThree.aspx?chapter=13.5.1>

**If confirmed, please provide details of any policies of guidance used by the Trust concerning the prescribing of alitretinon for the treatment of severe hand eczema**

Please see response above