

FOI REF: 25/377

3rd June 2025

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

- 1) **Does your trust or health board treat giant cell arteritis (GCA)? If not, please provide the name of the hospital or trust that you refer GCA patients to.**

Yes.

- 2) **In the past 3 months, how many patients with a primary diagnosis of GCA (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) were:**

- **Admitted as an inpatient**

Number of Admissions	Diagnosis Code	Diagnosis Description
8	M315	Giant cell arteritis with polymyalgia rheumatica
36	M316	Other giant cell arteritis

- **Treated in A&E**

Number of Attendees	Diagnosis Description
5	Giant cell arteritis with polymyalgia rheumatica
2	Giant cell arteritis without polymyalgia rheumatica

The figures provided in response to question 2 cover the period from 1st February 2025 – 30th April 2025.

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3) How many patients were treated by the rheumatology department in the past 3 months with the following:

- Tocilizumab – for any disease 123
- Tocilizumab for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) only 14
- Tocilizumab for giant cell arteritis (GCA) only 9

4) How many patients were treated by the ophthalmology department (for any disease) in the past 3 months with Tocilizumab?

0.

5) How many patients were treated in A&E in the past 3 months for giant cell arteritis (GCA) with Tocilizumab?

0.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net