

FOI REF: 25/678

7th October 2025

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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Eastbourne
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Tel: 0300 131 4500
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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) **How many patients have a current diagnosis of Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA) (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) at your Trust?**

0 (as at 30th September 2025).

- 2) **How many patients have been newly diagnosed with Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA) (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) in the past 3 months?**

Diagnosis Code & Description	No. of Admissions
M31.5: Giant cell arteritis with polymyalgia rheumatica	12
M31.6: Other giant cell arteritis	33
Grand Total	45

(The figures provided in response to Q2 are from 1st June 2025 – 31st August 2025.)

- 3) **How many patients were treated by the Rheumatology department for Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA) (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6)?**

Diagnosis Code & Description	No. of Patients
M31.5: Giant cell arteritis with polymyalgia rheumatica.	25
M31.6: Other giant cell arteritis.	67
Grand Total	92

(The figures provided in response to Q3 are from 1st June 2025 – 31st August 2025.)

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

- Tocilizumab – for any disease 133
- Tocilizumab for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) only 0
- Tocilizumab for giant cell arteritis (GCA) only 10

5) How many patients were treated by the ophthalmology department (for any disease) in the past 3 months with Tocilizumab? 1

6) How many patients were treated in A&E in the past 3 months for giant cell arteritis (GCA) with Tocilizumab? 0

7) 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.

0

- Treated in A&E.

Diagnosis Description	No. of Admissions
Giant cell arteritis with polymyalgia rheumatica.	5
Giant cell arteritis without polymyalgia rheumatica.	2
Grand Total	7

(The figures provided in response to Q7 are from 1st June 2025 – 31st August 2025.)

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.

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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